



# The Trinity Tripod

Vol. 103, No. 23

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WWW.TRINITYTRIPOD.COM

## Vernon, Allen Houses Given for Group Use

SARAH HARVEY  
NEWS EDITOR

The recently announced themed houses on Vernon Street and Allen Place are a sign of the significant progress made by the President's Council on Campus Climate, a committee formed earlier this semester consisting of faculty and student members. The Council has focused on a variety of initiatives including the Vernon Street and Allen Place houses, the formation of an events committee, co-curricular activities, and first-year program discussions.

The main goal of the Council is to increase the quality of the community on campus. Chaplain Allison Read, Chair of the Council, highlighted the importance relationships among members of the Trinity campus. "The whole community has taken seriously the need for improved

see COUNCIL on page 10

## Energy Savings Become Fun Gainings

REBECCA BROWN  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

On Wed., April 24, ConnPIRG hosted a "Solar Jam" to educate and entertain Trinity students with how to make the campus more environmentally friendly. Students enjoyed a solar powered concert on the Mather quad with acts such as Chase Caillouette, Will Raymond, Malcolm Brown, Zee Santiago, and the Quirks. Green Campus donated vegan cupcakes and ConnPIRG provided solar powered smoothies.

Lindsey Cline, a student involved with ConnPIRG's Campus Climate Challenge, says the group "came up with the idea to have a solar-powered event to educate campus about the possibilities and benefits of renewable energy."

"The point of the event was to educate people about solar power and to show them that it can be used for anything, even a concert and to make smoothies," says Theresa Meehan '11.

Kai Paine '11, an attendee of the Solar Jam says that she thought the "energy-powered smoothie bar was a great idea for showing how solar energy could be used. And the smoothies weren't bad either!"

Claire Nusuti '08, Director of the Quirks, says the group "thought the concept of a completely solar powered

see CONNPIRG on page 9

## Campus Safety Dispatcher Dismissed Tuesday

KATY NOLIN &  
LIZZIE BROWN  
TRIPOD STAFF

Leonard Kendrick, a dispatcher with the Trinity College Campus Safety Department, was dismissed on Tuesday, April 29, after having failed to report multiple larceny convictions while employed at Trinity College.

Responding to an anonymous tip, *The Trinity Tripod* pursued an investigation last week regarding Kendrick's

alleged criminal background. As of Monday, April 28, the Administration was not aware of Kendrick's incriminating record, according to Dean of Students Frederick Alford.

Following his initial employment in 2002, Kendrick was arrested on Dec. 14, 2004, on charges of Larceny in the Third Degree by the Bloomfield Police Department. Kendrick pled guilty on May 10, 2005, and was sentenced to three years in

prison, the execution of which was suspended, and four years probation. He is still actively serving his probation sentence.

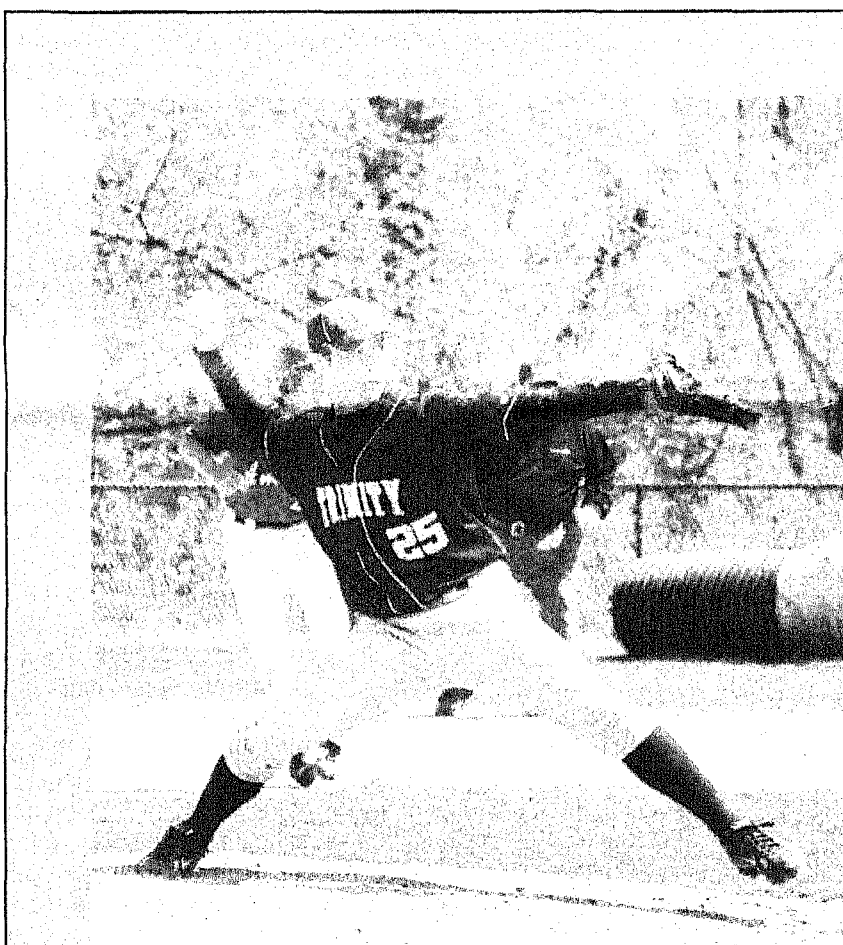
Larceny in the Third Degree refers to the theft of either a motor vehicle worth five thousand dollars or less, or property worth over one thousand dollars. It is considered a Class D felony.

Kendrick was arrested again on May 18, 2006, on charges of Larceny in the Fifth Degree by the East Hartford Police

Department. It is a Class B misdemeanor. Larceny in the Fifth Degree refers to the theft of property worth more than \$250.

An anonymous source informed the *Tripod* that a background check was conducted when Kendrick, a former police detective with the Hartford Police Department who retired in good standing on July 31, 1998, was hired in 2002. It yielded nothing at the time.

see ANONYMOUS on page 10



Courtesy of Matthew Sullivan

Sophomore righthander Jeremiah Bayer leads the NESCAC with a 1.30 ERA.

## BASEBALL DOMINATES IN- REGION RIVALS

STEPHANIE APSTEIN  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Trinity College baseball team, ranked second in Division III, extended their undefeated streak, which is now making national headlines, to a 30-0 record behind a 5-0 week.

The Bantams opened the week with a Tuesday evening game against the Eastern Connecticut State University Warriors, expected to be Trinity's most difficult opponent this season.

Instead of a pitchers' duel, the Bantams found themselves in a blowout, as the first seven batters reached base in the first inning before chasing ECSU's Joe Esposito, who started last year's 14-3 ECSU win, from the game. All seven scored.

see BAYER on page 22

## Seniors Illustrate Talent in Final Performances

LIZ AGRESTA  
ARTS EDITOR

This weekend, three of Trinity's senior Music majors will showcase four years worth of effort in their senior recitals. Lila Claghorn, Alex Dancho, and Natalie Davidzon will perform individually in a roughly hour-long show featuring a number of songs varying in style and composition, highlighting their diverse musical backgrounds. Claghorn's recital will be held Thursday, May 1, Dancho's show will be Friday, May 2, and Davidzon's recital will be held Saturday, May 3. All of these recitals will be held in Goodwin Theater at Austin Arts

Center.

Claghorn, a double major in Theater and Dance as well as Music, will be showing off her dual roles as a classically-trained singer – she has had five years of training under Betty Lee of the Taft School, Watertown, Conn. – and a musical theatre performer. The first half of her recital will be primarily classical music from composers such as Sergei Rachmaninoff, W. A. Mozart, and Maurice Ravel. Since most theatergoers on campus have only seen Claghorn perform musical theatre pieces, this should be an interesting contrast to her previous work. The second half of the recital will show Claghorn, accompanied by

Christine Melson on piano, in a more familiar light, performing contemporary musical theatre pieces ranging from smaller works like independent New York-based composer Alicia Mathewson's *Love According to Luc* (featured in the Fall 2007 Musical Theater Revue) to big-name Broadway shows like Stephen Schwartz's *Wicked*. Claghorn will also perform three duets during this segment: two with Liz Sharpe '08 ("What Is This Feeling?" and "For Good" from *Wicked*) and one with Dancho ("Don't Do Sadness/Blue Wind" from the Duncan Sheik/Steven Sater collaboration, *Spring*

see THIS on page 18

# The Trinity Tripod

www.trinitytripod.com

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Letters to The Trinity Tripod must be received by 5 p.m. on the Friday before publication. Letters should be addressed to the Editor, not a particular individual. Letters over 400 words in length and opinion submissions over 800 words in length will not be published, though exceptions may be made at the editors' discretion under special circumstances. No unsigned or anonymous letters will be published; however, names may be withheld at the author's request. The Tripod will not publish any letters deemed by the editors to be an attack on an individual's character or personality. Submissions deemed to have been influenced by an organization for advertising or propagandistic purposes will not be published. Otherwise, all opinions expressed will be given a forum.

All letters are the sole responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the Tripod. The editors of the Tripod reserve the right to edit all letters for clarity and/or brevity.

Letters may be submitted via Campus Mail Box 702582 or via e-mail at tripod@trincoll.edu.

Visit the Tripod table every Tuesday at 5 p.m. in the rear of Mather Dining Hall (near the stage).

# GOT A SCOOP?

Representatives from every section of the Tripod will be available to discuss article ideas, event info, and news tips with you. Faculty and staff welcome.

## Tripod Editorial

As the year comes to an end, it seems that we should celebrate the many accomplishments that we have achieved as a College, some more noticable than others, but nevertheless important. Our athletic teams won several NESCAC titles, our environmental groups helped make our little corner of the world a greener place in which to

live, fraternities worked on improving the social atmosphere at Trinity, activists encouraged others to become involved in our nation's political discourse, artists and performers featured their various talents, alums donated millions of dollars to the "Capital Campaign," faculty expanded our curriculum, and this publication may have

made a difference in the Campus Safety Department's visibility.

Ultimately, these are all things for which we should collectively receive a pat on the back, a round of applause, what have you; however, we must always keep in mind that there is much more to do and a tremendous amount of room for improvement.

## Letters to the Editor

### Parent Upset by Removal of Greek Life Article

I heard that there was some pretty vicious commentary on the original article [written by Whitney Duprey '09 in the April 15 issue of *The Trinity Tripod*] and the follow-up response article [written by Ryan Haney '10 and David Kimball Stanley '9 in the April 22 issue of the *Tripod*]. What do you expect to happen when you publish an inflammatory piece like Ms. Duprey's? I hear no mention of a physical attack. Her article was the equivalent of a verbal attack on all women. To pull the articles and commentary is a craven act. I didn't have great respect for this newspaper before, but this act is egregious. As is said, "If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen." Ms. Duprey and others of her ilk need help. I tell you truly that I have never seen in any newspaper in my not inconsiderable years so many articles that are demeaning to women as I have seen over the past few years I have been receiving the [online version of the] *Tripod*. Many of you will be graduating and entering the work world soon.

I would love to know how many Trinity students, male and female, end up having to take extra sensitivity training sessions for sexual harassment in the work place in the first year they are out. Believe me, the actions that I have seen described in your printed output will qualify as harassment in the real world. Although I have been offended by many opinions appearing in your paper, I have never commented, even when so many have appeared under "anonymous" or a pseudonym, because people do have the right to their opinions, no matter how misguided I think they may be. But the action of removing the articles and commentary smacks of First Amendment infringement. A reputable journalistic venue would have added an advisory about obscene language and hiding behind a pen name instead of yanking the whole thing because of wounded feelings. Please rethink your position.

Sincerely,  
Susan L. Nasuti  
Trinity College Parent '08

### Alum Concerned About Security On Campus

I am glad to see that the students at Trinity are continuing to push for an increase in campus security. As both an alum and a current parent, I've been extremely concerned about student safety. When I learned about the late March assault, I immediately tried to contact an acquaintance who is on the Board of Trustees. In my e-mail to her, I asked that three things be considered: 1) an increase in the number of campus security employees, 2) arming these same employees, and 3) make security vehicles more "intimidating" - the current Impalas with no marking do not make "a statement." After this attempt to contact the Trustee, I was e-mailed by an alumni development individual. I made sure to make a similar request, asking for the same three changes to security. By initially trying to contact a Trustee, I was hoping that the three requests might make it to the next Board of Trustees' meeting. My husband and I spent a lot of time on Trinity's campus this winter to attend winter sports events. We have heard about many incidents and scary situations from students, and my daughter had a threatening experience last fall. I understand how difficult it is for the College to get a handle on the problem, and it's discouraging that student safety has not improved in spite of the terrific things that Trinity has done in a genuine effort to improve the neighborhood. Be that as it may, the situation has not improved to my knowledge - I wonder if, in fact, it has gotten worse. I think it is time for new tactics on the part of the College. The current system isn't working - while security cameras are a help, they can't possibly replace the efficacy of having more armed security personnel driving easily identifiable vehicles 24/7 around the campus environs. Not only is it critical for the safety of students and all others on campus, it's very important that potential students and their parents see a major security presence on campus. Lack of security shouldn't be an issue for a student and family considering Trinity as an option, and currently, I'm afraid it is.

Most sincerely,  
Elizabeth Reece '78  
Trinity College Parent '11

### Parent Compliments April 15 Issue of the Tripod

What a great job Joe Tarzi '08 and the rest of the *Tripod* staff did with the April 15 edition. The front page captured the reader's attention immediately, as it should have since this is such a critically important topic. The accompanying editorial is well-written.

You made specific and reasonable recommendations without sounding shrill or hysterical. Campus safety must be the College's highest priority because without it, the superb liberal arts education that Trinity offers matters little. As a parent, I am pleased that the newspaper is taking up the call for improved campus safety. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,  
Michal D. Apstein, M.D.  
Trinity College Parent '10

### Professor Recognizes Associate Academic Dean

On the occasion of Dean Spencer's formal retirement, I would like to thank him for his many years of service to Trinity.

Although Ron and I were students at around the same time, I did not get to know him well until I joined the Trinity faculty in 1972. During that time I have worked very closely with Dean Spencer and I often asked myself what would the College do without him?

I can't think of a single person at Trinity whose instincts and educational values I respect more. His commitment to the liberal arts, his understanding of the College, his genuine respect for Trinity students are all qualities that have made him so indispensable. In academia, experts are in abundant supply but real intellectuals, like Ron Spencer, are quite rare.

Truly great institutions have to have a "memory," a sense of what makes them unique. They need a healthy sense of their own traditions, even as they move forward. As an alumnus of the college, Ron Spencer provided that "memory." I hope that it will not be forgotten.

Samuel Kassow '66  
Charles Northam Professor of History

Send a Letter to the Editor: e-mail tripod@trincoll.edu or submit at www.trinitytripod.com.



# OPINIONS

The Trinity Tripod

## Tripod Response to Petition One-Sided Pro-Israeli Articles Display Weak, Flawed Arguments

STEPHEN HUGHES  
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR

One must admire the *Tripod's* clever arrangement of information last week; on the one hand they display a lengthy reproduction in full of President Jones and Dean Alford's already e-mailed response to the protest, on the other a "response" from the Editor-in-Chief strategically placed as if it responded to the campus-wide letter thereby to inflate its already bloated sense of grandeur. Except it was in fact another one-sided assault on President Jones patched together from private conversations in such a way as to support the *Tripod's* newfound political agenda and deride the administration and Campus Safety.

Aside from the fact that these editorial liberties mutilate any notion of thoughtful exchange by cutting out the competition (or in the event that publication permission was denied to them, are not even newsworthy in the given form), the "article" misconstrues the facts. The *Tripod's* protest was worded vaguely, specifically to attract a wide appeal and did not include all the demands expressed in the *Tripod's* editorial. Given this information, one does not doubt the candor of those who recanted their signatures upon recognizing the particulars of the *Tripod's* project.

What is made clear is that for all their repetitious demands to increase Campus Safety's professionalism, their goal is to reduce officers to mere professionals, tools which fade into invisible serviceability, rather than regard them as human beings faced with a difficult and dangerous job and who moreover step over and above mere profes-

sionalism out of concern for the students, as the President has repeatedly pointed out.

Moreover, the insinuation that one's demographic invalidates one's opinions is unfounded and insulting. Those of us who are less likely to be victims of sexual assault because of our gender still have mothers, sisters, daughters and girlfriends we care about. Does the Editor-in-Chief also to insinuate that men are immune to trauma in such instances, or even that we do not have vulnerabilities of our own?

Indeed, the *Tripod* has shown an utter lack of sensitivity by naively reducing the recent sexual assault to mere utility as a springboard and a weapon for the editorial agenda. They neglect the excess of the lived experience, which cannot be integrated into a meaningful lesson that ultimately results in some greater good, and as such is so difficult to come to terms with. It is precisely because the "meaning" of such events is their gratuitous meaninglessness that we take preventative action and provide support when those close to us are violated; this does not mean, however, that we ought not to reflect on how we address these issues, nor does it mean that we can ever make them disappear so easily. One fears a hidden nostalgia in the *Tripod's* efforts which threaten to render our weaknesses a non-issue by conveniently dumping our problems in the hands of someone else so that we no longer need to even consider them.

Moreover, the continual emphasis on this particular incident disguises the less popular fact that most assaults on Trinity students, sexual or otherwise, are com-

mitted by other Trinity students, not in the open where Campus Safety can potentially see and stop them, but behind closed doors. While one does not doubt that there are many parents who equate safety with goodness, one also does not doubt that few parents consider the possibility that it is against their issue that we need the most protection.

While it is indeed true that many decent people who reside outside our gated campus suffer high crime rates and general poverty (by Trinity standards), most criminals who have any involvement with Trinity know very well that it is in their financial interests not to contribute to violent crime on campus, which only brings police and the prospect of prison. Trinity students, for their part, ensure a steady flow of funding for violent crime off campus through their support of Hartford's booming drug trade, which also occurs behind closed doors.

We would do well to reflect on whether or not our own hands are clean before we start pointing our fingers and demonizing those around us. As we look ahead to the coming year, as we prepare to welcome a new class of Trinity students, for better or for worse, into our world, we need to remember the real weaknesses we all have, the real reason why we remain committed to caring for one another, and provide support for our friends and family (and even our adversaries) who suffer abuse at the hands of our peers. We have many more storms to weather in our endeavor for a better campus climate, and only common concern and love with which to hold on to what is dear to us.

JOHN JABBOUR  
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR



Last week, Andrew Horowitz '06 wrote a piece to *The Trinity Tripod* criticizing the tone of the discussion on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. In doing so, he most strongly condemned Fatima Jafri '08 and Hady Matar '11 for what I thought were finely crafted, intellectual pieces. My purpose in writing this is to note Jafri and Matar's opinions for their level of engagement and unorthodox stances. The pieces written in opposition to Jafri's and Matar's articles failed in maintaining a level of discourse, and Horowitz failed further in recognizing this. (I almost want to commend Jordan Fisher '08 for his level of discourse, but then I remembered that he resorted to the old, tired, anti-Israeli government equals anti-Semitic trick.)

My biggest qualm with

Horowitz's piece last week is a seemingly naïve position that many others take with respect to the issue, in order to avoid addressing major implications of the brutal occupation since 1948 (yes Israel, please blow out your candles!). I describe this position as the notorious "both sides are stupid" argument.

"Both sides are stupid" can be used in many instances when debating the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Israeli soldiers shoot guns at Arabs while Palestinian militants detonate explosives in crowds of Israelis - hey! "Both sides are stupid." Israeli tanks and missiles demolish Palestinian villages while Palestinian schools teach their children to hate the Zionist enemy - "both sides are stupid." A Zionist agenda wants to have control of all the occupied territories while Islamic fundamentalists want to push Jews into the sea - it's so easy to say: "both sides are stupid!" Even Lucy Schiffman '09 was able to use this argu-

see JAFRI on page 6

## Newspaper Serves As Positive Student Forum

SARAH HARVEY  
NEWS EDITOR



In the April 22 edition of *The Trinity Tripod*, an Opinions article by Seth Hull '11 lamented the possibility that the *Tripod* Campus Safety petition would deter potential students from choosing Trinity as their home for the next four years. He declared the petition, and the *Tripod* in general, to be overly pessimistic and an unfair representation of the College.

I disagree with this claim. While it is true that some *Tripod* articles point out negative aspects of our campus, much of the newspaper is spent praising student performances, athletic wins and various achievements, and reporting on campus events. In the April 15 issue, along with the petition, the *Tripod* printed the outcomes of the SGA election, reviews of a senior thesis, thoughts on Ishmael Beah's visit to campus, accolades towards the undefeated baseball team, and many more positive stories.

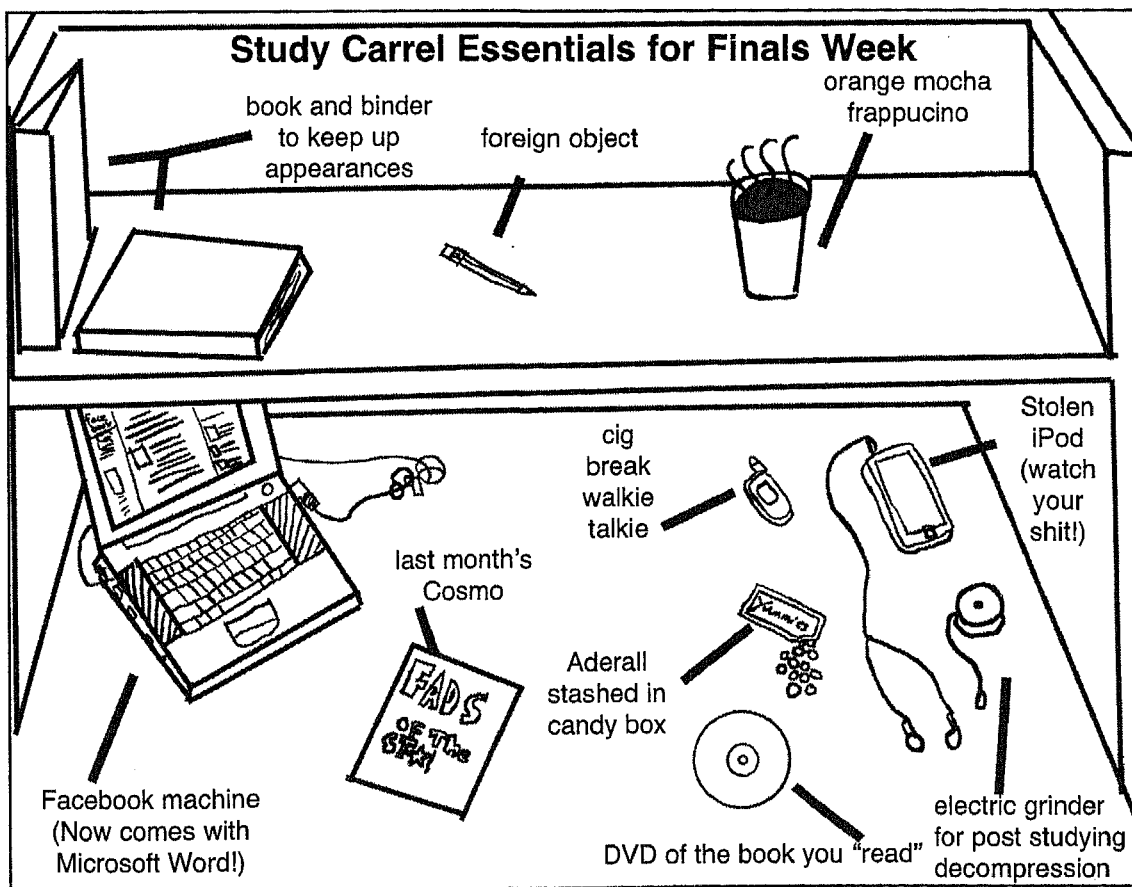
Nevertheless, Hull deems the paper to "exaggerate and

exacerbate every negative issue." I personally do not see this so-called cynicism as a bad thing. I believe the *Tripod* proves to its readers that students are willing to point out problems and strive to fix them. This type of atmosphere is not found in a college ridden with apathy, but instead indicates a student body full of enthusiasm for Trinity's potential.

I believe that even the Campus Safety petition is not a legitimate reason for high school seniors to turn away from Trinity. While the timing of the petition was unfortunate, and not surprisingly may have shocked some potential students at VIP Days, the petition did not reveal some secret aspect of Trinity that would otherwise have been kept under wraps.

For instance, the petition declared nothing that cannot be found in any college guide. When I was helping my younger sister with her own college search, I decided to look up Trinity and see how it described the school at which I will spend the next three years. What I found in *The Big Book of Colleges '08*, published by College Prowler, was stunningly accurate on all

see PROBLEMS on page 6



Cartoon by Peter Kempson '10

## Tripod Articles Exemplify Polarization

JEFF CARPENTER  
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR



There is a trend I'm noticing in *The Trinity Tripod* that really bothers me. That trend is that the *Tripod's* Opinions section has become a platform, not where pertinent opinions are shared, but where some of Trinity's activists and advocates of change can vent their polarized frustrations with an "ever oppressive" campus atmosphere. The ironic part of this is that for many of those who consider themselves "activists," their activism will inspire no change, just ire. The disgusting part of this is that there are so many other things these people could put their time and effort into that could actually make a difference in the campus climate. Criticism and continued belittlement are avenues we can all take against each other, yet perhaps cooperation and conversation could solve some of these issues. Polarizing the campus is not being revolutionary. That's what has been done for years and has only perpetuated the pettiness in these articles.

When I first arrived on

campus, I was part of an incredibly successful football team that hadn't lost in three years. What completely confounded me was all of the hate that we received in the *Tripod*. Coming from high school, one would think that the success of fellow students, whether athletic competition or otherwise, would make the student body proud. This was not the case. These "activists" frequently lambasted us for recruiting "stupid football players," who did not deserve to be on this campus with these, so-called, intellectuals. From recruiting to budget, it seemed as if these kids would not stop, but they did. They stopped when we stopped winning these championships. We lost only three games in my final two years here, but the criticism stopped. I want to know why. The same kids are being recruited, and, as far as I know, football's budget hasn't been cut (through contributions from alumni we pay for ourselves, by the way).

Next was the race issue on campus. Now I'm not one to

Perhaps cooperation and conversation could solve some of these issues. Polarizing the campus is not being revolutionary. That's what has been done for years and has only perpetuate the pettiness in these article.

say that racism doesn't exist, and Trinity's campus is no exception. But I did have a problem when certain groups were being labeled as racist. The football team again was a problem here, when "the white football players' table" (where black players were also sitting at the time) ignored a young black woman who sat with us one day. She said nothing and then left without a word; we didn't know why until we found out it was her experiment to determine that the football team was racist. I'd like to ask any professor how sound of an "experiment" that was. But it didn't stop at one of the most diverse teams on campus. The courtesy of the R word was extended to fraternities as well. All of the fraternities, because of one isolated incident. Now I know there were other incidents around campus, but why did fraternities take the fall? I know for a fact that my fraternity, Alpha Chi Rho, hasn't rejected anyone from pledging since I've been

see TRINITY on page 6

## Removal of Article from Web Site Disappointing

CLAIRE NASUTI  
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR



I am extremely disappointed that *The Trinity Tripod* took down the article David Kimball-Stanley '09 and Ryan Haney '10 wrote in response to the article Whitney Duprey '09 wrote on the fraternities. If, as the *Tripod* Web site claims, there had been a personal attack in the article, then why did they agree to publish it in the first place? A lot of the article dealt with issues and ideas that could not even be construed as personal attacks; why, then, did the *Tripod* not ask to just cut a few sentences? Not to mention the fact that there have been much more offensive personal attacks in the *Tripod* and on the *Tripod* Web site, many of them written by anonymous contributors.

However, the vast majority of these attacks were on students who disagree with the dominant frat culture on this campus, so I suppose the *Tripod's* not as worried about hurting the feelings of these "radical feminists."

Nothing in their article was a personal attack on Duprey; she published her ideas, her dangerous logic, and her poor writing in the *Tripod* for all to see and critique. Just because

Nothing in their article was a personal attack on Duprey; she published her ideas, her dangerous logic, and her poor writing in the *Tripod* for all to see and critique. Just because an article is controversial doesn't mean it's a personal attack.

Just because an article is controversial doesn't mean it's a personal attack. If it is the "tone" that the article took on, in being extremely sarcastic, that offended people, then I think everyone should

re-read almost every opinion article written by Joe Tarzi '08, *Tripod* Editor-in-Chief. I think the use of sarcasm is fine, and in this case actually generated some sort of

see HANEY on page 7

## Response to Duprey Condensing, Diminishes Cooperation

CARVER DISERENS and TIM MARGOLIN  
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTORS

Last week David Kimball-Stanley '09 and Ryan Haney '10 wrote a response to an Opinions piece by Whitney Duprey '09, "If You Don't Like the Frats, Don't Go," which was itself a response to an article written by Lucy Schiffman '09 condemning a fraternity's Playboy-themed party as misogynistic and sexist.

Schiffman got the ball rolling. Duprey wrote a rebuttal. Then came last week's article, "Duprey Ignores Greek Life Concerns," which was stilted, slanderous, and, for lack of a better word, mean.

Are Kimball-Stanley and Haney more concerned with sexism or with Duprey's literary talents? We get it. They are better writers than her. They were so astonished by her article that they built theirs around the idea that hers was a piece of humor writing.

Kimball-Stanley ran for president of the Student Government Association a few weeks ago. In the presidential debate held before the election, he said that when discussing controversial issues, people often get heated and the dialogue may not necessarily be "hunky-dory." We

completely agree with him. However, David concluded his remark by saying "[...] we should keep it friendly and it shouldn't be, like, derisive or anything." For those of us who aren't the "Presidential Fellow for the creative writing major," derisive is an adjective expressing contempt or ridicule.

Kimball-Stanley went on to talk about bringing this campus together, and it's for that reason that it strikes us as counterintuitive that he talks about unifying Trinity on one hand, and on the other proceeds to launch a character attack against a fellow student and on a significant portion of the Greek community.

In their article, Kimball-Stanley and Haney say, "the persona [Duprey] put on came dangerously close to saying that, once a woman sets foot inside a fraternity house, she should expect to be sexually assaulted." Does it really come close to saying that? It seems more that this "persona" they repeatedly parody stems from their own preconceptions about fraternities, piggy-backed onto her argument for a good pseudo-intellectual high-five.

They say that no matter how many Greeks go to "Take Back the Night," and no matter how many hip-hop shows or cocktail parties they host, if sexism persists, these actions

mean nothing. These are steps, and to say they mean nothing is dismissive, facile, and insulting to those that work hard to make them a reality.

It's a truism in any sort of policy implementation that it's the small incremental actions that eventually lead to lasting changes. Greeks have a largely negative stereotype on this campus, and they are working to combat it and what it represents. By brushing off these efforts as nothing, Kimball-Stanley and Haney diminish all of the progress made in the past few years.

This gets at a greater point that we find vexing: these two gentlemen seem to be oddly fascinated with Greek life. Greek life is not the be all and end all of Trinity's problems. Sexism, scantily clad women, sex in general, none of these issues will cease to exist even if all the fraternities became monasteries.

After reading their article, we think their energy is misdirected. Their problem isn't with the fraternities themselves. Their problem appears to be with showcasing their wit, blaming one social group on campus for problems endemic in our larger society, and with the confused musings of one girl.

Earlier this month an event entitled "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Orgasms"

was hosted at the Fred (an organization that Haney and Kimball-Stanley are members of). The speaker at the event, Megan Andelloux, wore a small black dress and bright red high heels. We assume that members of the Fred did not force her to dress this way. Is it possible that she dressed this way because she wanted to? Perhaps she is proud of her figure and finds it to be empowering for her to show it off. Why is it then that women who choose to dress with minimal clothing at a fraternity party are automatically perpetuating sexism? There are plenty of guests at themed parties who choose not to dress up and they are still allowed inside the various basements, living rooms and kitchens. Just ask Lucy Schiffman. In her article, Schiffman noted that she did not don lingerie or bunny ears to the "infamous" Playboy party, and yet she was still admitted. Schiffman concluded her article by saying, "I still go to fraternities [...]" However, I always make it out wearing at least a shirt." Schiffman decided to keep her clothes on, and thought it necessary to disdainfully judge others who didn't. Perhaps she would've preferred to attend parties back when Trinity was founded in 1823. Back then, women weren't allowed out of the house with-

out the top button of their blouses buttoned and their ankles covered.

Looking the other way in the face of sexism, racism and violence - these things are wrong. We're with you. But parties are voluntary revelry. Duprey was not making a figurative argument, or trying to espouse a particular sort of reasoning with which to understand the world, she was making a specific one: if you don't like a party, you don't have to go.

To address the issue in such a condescending manner, Kimball-Stanley and Haney detracted significantly from their argument and needlessly attacked a student guilty of nothing more than writing a disorganized opinions piece (that admittedly could have been written in five words not 500).

Last year, Kimball-Stanley penned an article for *The Trinity Tripod* in response to an anonymous article written about the Fred that claimed that it was "a haven for elitist intellectualism." In his article, Kimball-Stanley wrote, "There is no empirical evidence to show that the Fred thinks it's better than anyone else." We know many members of the Fred for which this is true. By writing their article, Kimball-Stanley and Haney have failed to convince us of the same.



# Logistics of Spring Weekend Deficient

QUINN BANNON  
OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR



This year's Spring Weekend was, we'll say, different. Instead of the usual hype of the big event on

Sunday, this year's concert was extremely disappointing. It was not the fault of Common or Cave Mary, but the result of a poor performance by Trinity College.

The performance was pretty impressive. Despite being previously unaware of Common's music or Jack's Mannequin for that matter, they impressed me. Common was an unusually good performer who engaged the crowd and played some great tracks. Cave Mary was a good show as expected.

When I first walked in to watch my friend Bobby McGrath (Cave Mary's front man) open up, I half expected the Pope to be stopping by with all the security walking around. Not only was I seriously patted

down to enter the show, but I was pushed along by a certain delightful member of Campus Safety when waiting for a friend to enter.

At the entrance, my friend was told that he was not allowed to come in, and was prevented from doing so for the remainder of the day. Why? He is on the wrestling team and at a practice earlier that morning his bracelet had snapped off. Having taped it on he assumed it would not be a problem because he had paid the \$20 fee the day before. It wouldn't make sense for security to turn down a paying member of the Trinity community, would it? I guess he was wrong. He was rudely turned away twice for the same reason, and other Trinity students have had the same experience.

Maybe next year Trinity can invest in some steel bracelets to

For those of us who were allowed to enter, and follow the maze that led to the 21 and older cage in the back, we did not enjoy ourselves. We were secluded ...

make sure that our investments are protected. \$20 may not mean much to a school that collects a premium of \$50,000 a year from 2,500 people, but to some college students it's all we have to spend for the week. It's not like he created the bracelet on the computer, or mail-ordered it; even if he did not purchase it, \$20 was still paid by someone in our community, and that bracelet should have warranted entry.

For those of us who were allowed to enter, and follow the maze that led to the 21 and older cage in the back, we did not enjoy ourselves. We were secluded, our liquor intake was restricted, and the number of beer cans we brought in was written on our arms. Sounds sickeningly familiar. In order to enjoy the show we were forced to gather around the front of said

see SPRING on page 7

# Veteran Tripod Staffer Takes Retrospective Look

MIKE ROBINSON  
SPORTS EDITOR



In this, the last issue of *The Trinity Tripod* in my four years at Trinity, I have decided that it is time to

reveal my ultimate opinion on this campus, this newspaper, the administration, the student body, Campus Safety, the football team, academics, arts, Chartwells, the frats, the Fred Pfiel Project, religion, philosophy, metaphysics, and the meaning of life. The time has finally

come to rise above the petty concerns usually found within this section and paper and show to the millions of readers of this illustrious publication exactly what I think about all the issues confronting myself, my fellow students, and the College. But, to do this, I first need to look to the past, at all the opinions that have come before.

In my own writing, I have constructed serious and extensive arguments about all the relevant issues on campus. My first article for the *Tripod* was an anecdote of a night out that consisted of me arguing with an imaginary character, John Q. Intellectual, about how drinking fit into the campus scene. With this clear and structural approach in place, I tackled the *U.S. News and World Report* rankings issue by visiting their imaginary New York offices, which strangely resembled Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory. The brilliance of these arguments carried over into my other writing.

I fought to bring back the campus shuttle by telling a story about my drunk friend and a certain large piece of phallic-shaped rubber that he had chosen to take out that night. I criticized the school by writing an informative and comprehensive guide to campus for 70-year-old alumni for Homecoming. I showed remarkable consistency by writing about my apathy towards the new language requirement and any of the decisions made by the administration and then passionately defending the writing requirement and praising the strong and visionary leadership of the same administration the next week. I showed my dedication to relevant issues by going undercover as a Mexican on

Halloween to delve into the racial issues on campus. I even exposed a breaking story about the Women and Gender Resource Action Center (I think I got it right this time) by using speculation and incomplete facts.

My fellow students have upheld the same standards as I have. Each week, articles flow in full of incomplete and unfocused arguments about issues that have taken more of a beating than any dead horse before. There are freshmen starting movements against feminism with no real purpose or understanding of the issue and so-called "intellectuals" composing

Every week, someone else takes up the cross of finding an "alternative" social scene, some with mild suggestions, others with crusades against Greek life, all with nothing new to contribute to the discussion.

Environmentalists spout rhetoric about "green" policies that I'm fairly sure nobody understands.

Greek life, all with nothing new to contribute to the discussion. Environmentalists spout rhetoric about "green" policies that I'm fairly sure nobody understands, even them, and amateur politicians from the Student Government Association (SGA) feed their self-importance by running propaganda pieces that nearly every reader of the paper immediately skips over.

Even religion and ethnicity are being addressed with fervor, with the Arab-Israeli animosity being stirred up with the same kind of political slants and historical "interpretations" that the professionals use to sway the public.

Self-righteous, motivated students are denouncing whatever they think is wrong, regardless of how weak or poorly thought out their case is, with dedication, with equally impassioned students countering their every word, sometimes more than once.

The newspaper's policy is equally strong. The gesture of collecting all of those signatures, which I myself proudly signed, without first thinking through any suggestions or acknowledging that there are officers on campus doing the best they can with their means, was powerful. The decision to let a four-part SGA propaganda series run in the "Opinions" section last semester was a great and impar-

see SENIOR on page 6



## JIMMY gets TRcg%U up

Tripod Staff Writer  
Carver Diserens interviews  
President Jones.

**Carver Diserens:** From reading the *Tripod* the past couple of weeks, an outsider might get the sense that Trinity is falling apart at the seams. All of us here know that this is not the case, so to correct this idea, what sort of good news can you share with us going into the summer?

**Jimmy Jones:** There are so many wonderful things that don't get reported in your newspaper, but that is the way campus newspapers work. For example, I just came back from doing a tour of the Long Walk project. It happens to be, thanks to [William] Burgess, one of the greatest examples of collegiate gothic architecture in the United States. The renovation is, in a word, impressive. Look at the paving that is being put out in a gigantic "U" all the way from the Chapel to Cinestudio. All of the mounds of dirt have disappeared from the Quad, there is one more dumpster left, [and] the Bishop is going to have his Quadrangle back. When one looks at report cards about schools, there are several ways to grade them. Dean [Rena Fraden] continues to tell me that the faculty search committees continue to do extraordinarily fine work. They uncover first-rate talent, we recruit them, and then once they are here, we have more faculty development money than we've ever had in the history of Trinity.

**CD:** What does faculty development money go to?

**JJ:** It's money that faculty can apply for to do pedagogical projects or research projects of theirs. So, if you are an anthropologist and you need to go do primary research

somewhere, this is the committee you would go to. We are also recruiting very good students. We did something this last year that was a little risky. Thanks to one of the recommendations from the Campus Climate Advisory Committee, we added a supplemental essay to the application. What we tried to get people to do was to think very hard about whether this was a place they wanted to go to school. When we switched to the Common [Application], what we didn't foresee is that one might apply to 12 schools, three of which they might want to go to and nine of which they just went for on a whim. We didn't understand when we started this planning about 20 years ago that one of the consequences of it would be that you would just hit "send" with all those codes for various schools that you weren't really interested in. I still think that S, E, N, and D are the most dangerous four letters in the alphabet, in your world, Carver. Admissions has had a wonderful year, faculty recruitment has had a wonderful year, the buildings are coming along, and the planning for the future buildings is going at an excellent pace. We are doing hundreds of hours of planning to make sure that we don't make any mistakes about the new art buildings and science buildings. On the support for the school front, it continues to astonish me how much love there is for the College. We had another set of extraordinary gifts in the past week. One of them is a huge bequest for financial aid. I mean millions of dollars, because we've been able to make a very strong case for how important financial aid is.

## Senior Reflects on Tripod Past

continued from page 5

tial way to expose the ideas of the SGA to the students. And the journalistic integrity of the "Around Trinity" section has always been a beacon for student newspapers across the country.

The *Tripod* has been the perfect outlet for not only relevant and thought-provoking opinions and stories, but also ignorance, pettiness, slander, inaccuracy, recklessness, and irrelevance. It is with this legacy that I have formulated my greatest opinion of all, one that must reach all the readers of this paper. For, in all seriousness, it is what makes this publication, this section, and the freedom of the students to continue submitting their own opinions to be seen by their peers so great, whatever quality their writing and argument may have.

So, after calling on four years of experience and wisdom, there is, in me, one comprehensive, all-encompassing opinion about all the things that make up Trinity and this life as a whole:

I have one.

Later, Opinions.

## Jafri and Matar Bring Up Unique Points of View

continued from page 3

ment – Jafri called into question the state-sanctioned murder of 31 children in Gaza in 2006. Schiffman easily responded by citing the dreadful slaying of eight Yeshiva students in early March. See, both sides really are stupid!

While I call it the "both sides are stupid" argument, others have cited it as the "myth of balance." It is an argumentative technique that employs anecdotes of Arab-induced violence in order to counter claims of state-sanctioned violence by Israel. It has had the added effect of creating a false sense of shared responsibility; however, a truly balanced discussion would assess the situation holistically in order to determine where proportionate responsibility for peace and violence lies (see [www.ifamericansknew.org](http://www.ifamericansknew.org) for a side-by-side comparison of violence; here it is obvious that a much needed critique of the Israeli government is lacking in the general dis-

Jafri not only asks the reader to assess the conflict at its inception, but also through a lens of power dynamics and the globally-legitimized monopoly of violence that the nation-state possesses. In his equally engaging article, Matar presents readers with an astute political assessment.

not to buy into this tempting notion which ignores the fact that Arabs are overwhelmingly excluded from decision-making on issues that affect their livelihood. The Israeli government has effectively been responsible for denying Palestinians the right to fresh water, building the apartheid wall, deploying its military in the West Bank and Gaza,

course).

This dangerously misleading and extremely distracting form of argumentation impedes accessible discourse on any of the issues of the conflict. Instead of having a provocative and informed discussion about the implications of a brutal occupation like Jafri intended to do, the "both sides are stupid" argument turned her assessment of the issue into an irrelevant argument about how Palestinian atrocities are just as bad as Israeli ones.

This argumentative technique implies that Arabs are as responsible as the Israeli government for reaching peace.

I urge everyone

demolishing Palestinian villages to construct illegal settlements in the West Bank and Gaza, targeting civilian populations during the 2006 military campaign in Lebanon, and imprisoning thousands of innocent Palestinians. It is these issues and many more where the Israeli government uniquely carries the burden for peace. The fact that Palestinians are completely left out of negotiations pertaining to any of the aforementioned issues reveals both an undeniably imbalanced power dynamic and a greater responsibility for the Israeli government to commit to peace.

My point is this – both Jafri and Matar engaged with the debate on a level beyond "both sides are stupid" and hopefully pressed people to question what they consider to be conventional knowledge. In her electrifying pieces which call into question the celebration of Israel's "birthday," Jafri not only asks the reader to assess the conflict at its inception, but also through a lens of power dynamics and the globally-legitimized monopoly of violence that the nation-state possesses. In his equally engaging article, Matar presents readers with an astute political assessment based on a set of universal

principals and effectively builds a strong case claiming that the Israeli government has been lacking in efforts towards peace.

And so I ask, Horowitz, why, when such eloquently articulated opinions and diverse perspectives are brought forward to engage the College community, do you minimize Jafri's and Matar's discourse to "petty bickering?" You seem to prefer a dialogue focused on co-existence which is wonderful because many really do have misconceived notions of the other (as demonstrated by Schiffman's piece).

But I can attest for myself and many others who share viewpoints similar to those of Jafri and Matar that we are beyond the point of getting to know the "other side" and are ready to discuss the conflict on a substantive level. You, Horowitz, seem to have the co-existence part down, so why not join us in writing about the conflict in a critically substantive way?

There will always be time for co-existence projects like the ones you, Ibrahim Jabbour '06, and I have participated in before; however, those must never substitute real dialogue about the lives that are at stake as a result of an ethnocentric state occupation.

## Trinity Needs Constructive Discussion

continued from page 4

here. Not based on race, creed or religious beliefs. I also know of no other fraternity that has ever rejected someone based on any of these things. It seems as if there was a serious issue on campus and the onus had to be placed on some demographic, so why not the fraternities? They're selective after all.

Which brings me to the latest trendy thing to write about, the not only racist, now add sexist attitudes of the Greek organizations. You can call a party whatever you want, some girls are going to dress promiscuously because they want to and others won't. The point of a theme party is to dress up, girls will dress up how they will, as will guys. Last time I checked, they didn't turn down girls at Psi U's door because the girls had too much clothing on. This is America, where people can have fun by dressing however they want, right? Because we're talking about belittling women in articles, how about Kimball-Stanley and Haney's comment about frat brothers being forced to attend Take Back the Night rallies? By saying this, you are not only belittling these people's good intentions, but also belittling the cause they are there to support. Who are you to say why someone is at a rally of such

meaning?

Yes, I have special stake in this argument aside from being a fraternity brother, but isn't anyone tired of these activists who wish for peace, spewing hate whenever they get a chance? I am. I can spew hate, too. In fact, as an RA I've written up kids in the "substance free," application-based (but not selective, right?) Fred. And they weren't even drinking Yellow Tail Wine (as the article, critical of the Fred, stated a year-and-a-half ago). It was Pabst Blue Ribbon (shock and awe). But this article isn't about hate, despite the jabs in this paragraph.

My intention for this article is to inform people with all these beliefs of all the constructive things they could be doing with their time besides spewing hate. Believe it or not, there are people in many of these fraternities that are also intelligent whom you can have legitimate conversation with. Am I saying that the Fred can sponsor things with fraternities and try to bridge this gap of hate? Yes! Perhaps spend some time getting to know the people you hate on. Go to a sporting event from time to time and take part in the pride and elation of an overtime touchdown or a buzzer-beating three-pointer. If you extend your boundaries past that which you believe is ignorant,

those people may come to your play and support you. They may see an event at the Fred that piques their interest and go because that stigma is gone and they feel comfortable in a place they before felt they would be alienated.

The next step, believe it or not, is constructive conversation between people who have opposing views. Not vitriolic, intellectual jargon made to degrade someone you don't even know. Not only is that immature, but if you're actually trying to make a change and not be a pompous ass, you lose your legitimacy to anyone who could help make that change. I can't tell you the number of people who told Whitney Duprey '09 they appreciated her article when she wrote it because it finally made a different point about the same issue. Regardless of the simplicity of her article, her argument was just as simple. Now because of the convoluted, ignorant and hateful article written by Kimball-Stanley and Haney, the campus is even more polarized about the issue than before. Guess what? With polarization, change is impossible. Thanks guys for sharing your enlightened point of view. Next time why don't you try to help the campus climate instead of drag it down even further? Now that's a revolutionary idea on this campus.

## Problems Have to Be Identified to Be Solved

continued from page 3

accounts. Academics received a high score, food was rated as decent at best, and safety and security received the lowest rating possible, a C minus. Only four out of more than 240 institutions received this low rating, the other three being Creighton University, Old Dominion University, and Rutgers New Brunswick. Perhaps these ratings are arbitrary and need to be viewed with some skepticism; however, the safety and security rating proves that the *Tripod* petition did not point out some hidden aspect of the school. Trinity is in a large urban area, so it is no surprise that campus safety is a concern. Having students who are eager to address this concern shows more of a display of honesty and consideration than blatant negativity, as Hull suggests.

Every college has its issues. The fact that we, as students, are willing to identify the problems and work to institute change illustrates an

active student body and a great dedication to the well-being of the campus community.

I doubt that anyone loves Trinity more than the staff of the *Tripod*. If we did not love this school, we would probably not be willing to work long hours in the basement of Jackson putting out a newspaper each week (that everyone criticizes). If we did not love this school, we would not have attempted to enact change in an area of the College that we felt deserved the greatest attention.

One of the first steps of bringing about change is identifying the problem, and the *Tripod* acts as a forum for students to do just this. I honestly hope that the *Tripod* continues to address various shortcomings of Trinity as they arise, if only to keep the student body engaged and concerned. A newspaper that ignores problems is, in essence, useless, and I have faith that Trinity's potential students are capable enough to realize this.



## Spring Weekend A Let-Down

continued from page 5

cage and silently watch, for we did not get to be up close and enjoy the party.

When one of my friends walked up to the fence and began to talk to our group, a Campus Safety "manager" approached us and told him to move along. What?! I guess this was when I began to get really grumpy. I asked the officer what was wrong with talking to our friends through the steel fence. He replied that Trinity wanted it this way to prevent alcohol from entering the main event. I guess that beer cans can fit through tiny fence holes now or be transported by words. How ridiculous.

Trinity has no right to numb our experience as they have done this year. Let me remind them that not only does this campus run on tuition but also on alumni endowment. If the school continues to alienate its students, making it apparent that insurance costs are more important than our enjoyment, then they are certainly not going to squeeze any more money out of me once I am gone.

## Haney, Kimball-Stanley Article Not Personal Attack

continued from page 4

response. There have been many great articles in the past about the sexism in the fraternities; Sarah Gardiner '10 wrote an excellent one that appeared in the same issue as Duprey's. There is not a single comment on it as of Friday, April 25. Professor of Mathematics David Cruz-Uribe wrote a letter to the editor expressing his disappointment in Duprey and Trinity students. There were also no comments. The last time I looked at Haney and Kimball-Stanley's article before it was unfairly taken down, there were 20 comments. If we need to be sarcastic to get people to talk about these issues, then we're going to be sarcastic.

These are issues that need to be discussed. The logic Duprey used was dangerous, and people objected to Haney and Kimball-Stanley calling her a "racist." They didn't call her a racist; they just followed her logic to its dangerous conclusion. One anonymous (as so many of them are) contributor on the Web site said that comparing a college fraternity to the horrors of the Jim Crow laws was wrong. Rape is wrong, too, but people on this campus continually ignore the correlation between the sexist actions of some fraternities

and the high number of acquaintance rapes on this campus. All of this is besides the fact that the authors did not compare fraternities to the Jim Crow laws; once again, they took Duprey's dangerous logic and used it in other situations. Their point was if your logic can be used to justify the Jim Crow laws, then you shouldn't be using it. Duprey's logic was that people should avoid injustice, degradation, and discrimination as opposed to attempting to change it.

Another point that was misconstrued in the comments was the idea that Haney and Kimball-Stanley wanted to abolish all fraternities. They actually said that this was an extreme view, and that they did not agree with it, and repeatedly stressed that the issue was with the practices of some fraternities. There is no problem with getting alcohol, dancing, loud music, sweaty people, or even annoying people, if you go to a fraternity. If you don't like that, then yes, Duprey is right, a fraternity is

not for you. But saying that you should expect guys to hit on you or rub up against you is saying you should expect sexual harassment. It's just wrong on so many moral and logical levels. If you don't see that there's something wrong with that, then I don't even know how to begin to explain it to you.

The logic Duprey used was dangerous, and people objected to Haney and Kimball-Stanley calling her a "racist." They didn't call her a racist; they just followed her logic to its dangerous conclusion.

Some of these fraternities are revolting. You don't have to be a radical feminist to see that this is sexual harassment, and you don't have to be a radical feminist to see that sexual harassment is wrong. They did not judge her for enjoying dressing up and going to theme parties with the word "ho" in the title. They merely commented on her dangerous logic, which yes, leads to sexism, racism, homophobia, and a myriad of

other horrible, discriminatory problems, and on her writing, which was poor to say the least.

I am publishing this article with the full awareness that I will probably be attacked online, like Haney and Kimball-Stanley, as being a "radical feminist" for my belief that no woman should ever be told to expect sexual harassment. Perhaps some others may call me "cold-hearted" for not caring that Duprey's feelings were hurt, because I believe that every claim the authors made against her were valid.

Some may call me an elitist for believing that poor writing in a student publication does deserve critique, and still others may misconstrue my argument to say that I hate all fraternities, which is certainly not the case. But I know these are responses I may receive for publishing something in the *Tripod*, since the online commentary section lends itself to anonymous attacks on the article and the author; however, the only responses I will take seriously are those that address the issues. I stand by what I've written, and if the *Tripod* publishes it, they should do the right thing and stand by what they've published.

## Students Should Stop Their Kvetching, Take Advantage of Trinity

ALYSSA SIMPSON

OPINIONS CONTRIBUTOR



Just in case you forgot, Trinity College is a wonderful, world-class institution of higher education. Overall, the student body is engaged, active, thoughtful, sociable, and kind. Our students come from all over the world to grow, learn, and interact with one another. In my short time here I have been lucky enough to get to know many of these extraordinary individuals. I know that in 10 years many of my friends will be active participants in their communities—creating positive change and generally making the world a better place.

Too often I find myself in situations where students kvetch without constructive outcomes. Kvetching (for those of you who didn't grow up with a Jewish mother) is Yiddish for complaining, bitching, or whining. There exists so much discussion at Trinity that revolves

exclusively around negative aspects of the college, yet we don't seem to be doing anything about it. Instead of kvetching, we should utilize Trinity's resources to make positive changes. For instance, there is currently no Learning Services professional on campus to serve the approximate 10 percent of the student body with a diagnosed learning disability. As a student with dyslexia, I don't receive all of my accommodations at Trinity granted by law because we do not have the resources available on campus to provide them.

In my short time here I have discovered how extraordinarily easy it is to get involved in whatever I choose to. I find it highly unusual to run into a professor who doesn't agree to participate in student life when specifically asked by students to participate.

While it took a lot of effort, time, collaboration and support from various professors and administrators, I now have President Jimmy Jones' word that this issue can and will be solved by seriously looking to hire a full-time Learning Specialist on campus. The fact that I as a student can waltz in unannounced to any Dean or professor's office and speak my opinions is not ordinary. Rather, it is remarkable that there is such an intense focus on the undergraduate experience at

Trinity — this should be celebrated and talked about more.

Often alluded to in conversation is the tension which perhaps exists between the administrators and students; in my experience, I have been welcomed and invited by administrators to contribute my opinions towards creating positive change. I find that this tension can result from a lack of actual interaction. Recently there have been the first two in what we hope to continue as a regularly occurring "Conversation Over A Cocktail" event. This is time and space where professors, administrators and students sat side by side, engaged in finding ways to combat campus issues. I haven't heard of anyone in attendance that did not think it was a positive event. This collaboration between students and professors is a unique opportunity for which we should not take for granted.

There are far too many negative stereotypes which surround Trinity. This is not the "old boys' club" it once was. While there are horrific instances of racism and sexual assault which have occurred during my time here, the response of outrage was far louder and stronger than the few deviant individuals who contributed to the negativity. Hundreds of students come to open forums to discuss ways to improve campus when some-

thing negative occurs. Let the focus be on the active students who are enraged at these occurrences instead of those who complain about it.

In my short time here I have discovered how extraordinarily easy it is to get involved in whatever I choose to. I find it highly unusual to run into a professor who doesn't agree to participate in student life when specifically asked by students to participate. Despite whatever budgetary concerns that the school may have, there is still an amazing wealth of resources open to every student. The Trinity Exchange, which so many people either don't read entirely or skim over infrequently, is full of opportunities for travel, jobs, lectures, seminars, or events. It is because of Trinity that I have been able to travel to Thailand and Cambodia — places I probably would never have gone myself, let alone traveling with two great professors who had an astonishing amount of contacts and insights into the places we traveled. It is because of Trinity that I will go to Nepal / Tibet next January as a mentor to a freshman

seminar. It is because of Trinity that I will be going to Japan in June with the Technos tour on a cultural exchange. It is because of Trinity that I will go to Barcelona next spring and intern with an architectural

So go: find out what interests you and takes advantage of it! Make sure to engage your professors in your life; they want to get involved, and they are the catalysts to so many fantastic opportunities at Trinity.

It is because of Trinity that I got to be a field organizer for a political campaign over winter break. All of these things came up simply by saying "yes" and showing up, writing an essay or two, and having the desire to experience everything I can before I graduate.

So go: find out what interests you and take advantage of it! Make sure to engage your professors in your life; they want to get involved, and they are the catalysts to so many fantastic opportunities at Trinity. Read the Trinity Exchange, show up to a lecture, go to student events, participate in forums. I have never been in an environment where there is so much to do and so little time in which to do it. Trinity is moving up in the world; let's talk about all the great things which happen here.

# NEWS

The Trinity Tripod

## T.J. Barber To Leave Trinity at End of Semester

JOSH EPHRAIM  
COPY EDITOR

T.J. Barber, Associate Director for Operations and Judicial Affairs at Trinity College since 2001, will leave Trinity at the end of the semester. Barber currently advises all student groups on budgetary issues and has been an overall source of advice for students and their organizations.

Barber played an integral role in the renovation of the Mather dining hall and bookstore. Along with other accomplishments, Barber played a large part in the 2007 Mather Art Project, the creation of the student discount program, and worked with the Student Government Association (SGA) to make the Student Activities Fund (SAF) much more manageable and accessible.

Bryce Blum '10, SGA Executive Vice President Elect, said: "From an SGA standpoint he is our oracle. He knows our history and can give us phenomenal advice. Whenever a critical moment arises we always refer to T.J. He does it without pushing an agenda. As much as any faculty member I've ever met you can tell he cares about the student perspective and what it's like to be a

student on this campus and will really advocate for student interests."

Several students have developed close relationships with Barber. "Beyond the SGA and a helping hand on campus, students see him as a guide, a role model and a friend," Blum added. "He really befriends the student body and cares about what they have to say. He's just there to help."

Barber connected with the students on a very personal level, often going above and beyond his job description to help students. Aside from his position as Associate Director of Operations and Judicial Affairs, Barber has also held several other positions relating to campus life.

"T.J. is easily one of the most accessible and genuinely kind and helpful person I've ever met," said Jordyn Sims, Opinions Editor and Business Manager of *The Trinity Tripod*. "He always went above and beyond his duties, answering my seemingly silly questions for the *Tripod's* needs, and helping us out with whatever we needed on the SGA. He will be deeply missed and fondly remembered with great respect."

The College has not found someone to replace Barber. "The College is in the

midst of a search for a Director of Student Activities/Associate Director of Campus Life. My successor should be starting in July," said Barber. With regards to qualities that are important in his replacement, he added, "Probably the biggest is a sincere desire to make a difference in the lives of students. You can't fake sincerity and work successfully with students every day."

SGA President Andrew Pedro '08, who has worked with Barber in the SGA during his time here said, "T.J. has advised the SGA for almost a decade and he has an invaluable wealth of knowledge relating to the past. There have been many times when we've found ourselves wondering about what our predecessors did in a particular situation, and T.J. has been there for us."

"T.J. Barber has served as a guide for the SGA and effectively the student body," Pedro added.

Barber will be leaving his position at the end of the year because of his demanding work schedule including night and weekend events, meetings, and on-call rotations. He looks forward to spending more time with his one-year-old daughter.

## Revised 2008 Budget Presented

JAMES KUKSTIS  
NEWS EDITOR

On Friday, April 25, an update to the fiscal year 2008 budget was publicly presented. Faculty, administrators, and students gathered in the faculty lounge of Hamlin Hall to see the revised budget. The original budget was finalized in December, but changes had to be made due to events that happened after this time.

As of March 31, there was an operating surplus of over \$23 million, based on savings in salaries, which was budgeted for \$41 million and has only taken about \$30 million, and from various operating expenses, which had \$26.6 million attributed to it, but has only required \$21.6 million. A budget which was originally planned for \$105,162,000 has only required \$76,539,000.

The budget planning for 2009 works under many assumptions. It is assumed that there will be 2025 undergraduate students in Hartford and 250 students in global and other education programs, that there will be a five percent increase in tuition, and that 36 percent of the freshmen class will be on need-based aid, among other expense assumptions.

The Budget Office recognized three main concerns for the 2009 operating budget: a decline in the revenue from Elderhostel, an abroad program, deferred maintenance that has been ignored and will need to be addressed, and the poor U.S. dollar to Euro ratio.

After 18 percent annual return seen in the 2006-2007 year, Trinity's endowment saw a 5 percent decrease in the annual return. The endowment now stands at \$412 million, still considerably greater than two years ago when it stood at \$382 million.

The Jarvis/Seabury renovation is still expected to be complete by August of this year. The \$31.4 million project is, to date, estimated to be only \$221,000 over budget. Three chillers are needed for the renovations as well as to replace other aging chillers on campus. Two chillers are being replaced, in a project due for completion in May, at a cost of \$2.88 million. The other has been deferred until 2010. Chillers are machines that remove heat from buildings and function in air conditioning systems.

Architects have been hired to construct an initial design for a new Arts Building, part of the Master Plan. Also, the automated temperature and humidity control system throughout the Life Science Center (LSC) is being reinstated at an estimated cost of \$600,000. The Master Plan also calls for LSC to be demolished in the future, but the current temperature issues and the distance of the estimated start date of the project makes this repair necessary.

Trinity is looking into the possibility of refinancing \$15 million 2004 CHEFA Series I Bonds in July. According to the presentation, "there are problems with the financial structure that will be resolved with the refinancing."

## Kassow Recognized for Work with Hillel House

NINNA GAENSLER-DEBS  
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

Lisa Kassow, Director of Trinity College's Zachs Hillel House, will receive the Vision Award in Jewish Heritage for her lifetime devotion to Jewish Arts, Culture and Education from the Charter Oak Cultural Center. Kassow is one of the three Hartford residents who are being honored by Charter Oak for their dedication to "repairing the world" through teaching, promoting social awareness, and working for justice.

"We are giving Lisa our Vision Award in Jewish Heritage for a million reasons," said Rabbi Donna Berman, Executive Director of the Charter Oak Cultural Center. "Her approach to Judaism is inclusive and creative, and her commitment has always been to building bridges of understanding between people and communities. We are honored to honor her."

Hillel is one of the most active organizations on campus, sponsoring activities including organizing an Israeli Techno Party and celebrating Israel's 60th Birthday. Hillel held a traditional Passover Seder and most recently on Thursday, April 24, Hillel held an Eco-Friendly Seder for an evening of entertainment during which participants could reflect on contemporary issues. This year's theme is "Going Green."

Kassow said that her dream for Hillel is for it to be "an open tent for Jewish students and for those interested in learning more about Jewish life." All activities are open to every student on campus. "Even if students aren't Jewish, they learn something," she explained. "Connections are made, and when they leave college they walk away with positive experiences." Kassow said she "loves working with students. My job is to encourage them, to present the full array of possibilities and to help direct their energy. Creatively, we come together and make a community that enriches us all."

Lisa Sobel, Hillel Steinhardt Jewish Campus Service Corps Fellow, affirmed Kassow's success in following her vision. "Lisa is fun and easy to work with, and her vision and passion for Jewish Studies really inspire students and faculty alike to get more involved. She is a great asset to the Trinity community."

Students share as much enthusiasm about Hillel as Kassow does. On the Hillel Web site, Trinity alum Sarah Pflantzer, the 2002 Hillel co-president, said, "It's hard to answer the question of what exactly Hillel means to me because, frankly, Hillel has meant everything to me. The community that we have created in such a short time has become my family here at Trinity." Thea Button '11 said, "Lisa is everyone's quintessential Jewish mother; she feeds us, takes care of us and makes sure that we are happy. Despite the fact that I am not Jewish she has made me feel welcome in the Hillel House. She makes it a warm and pleasant environment for the entire student body, and we love her for it."

Kassow said that she is excited about receiving the award: "It was so totally unexpected and such a surprise. I'm deeply, deeply honored."

The Charter Oak's Cultural Center's Seventh Annual Gala, where Kassow will win her award, will be held at the Hartford Hilton Hotel. It will include dinner, dancing, both live and silent auctions, and entertainment for all. The evening's events are sponsored by Aetna Inc., and the 2008 Charter Oak Vision Awards will be presented at 6:30. The other recipients of the Charter Oak's awards were John Rose Jr., corporation counsel to Hartford Mayor Eddie Perez, who will receive the Vision Award in Social Justice; and Edward Cumming, conductor of the Hartford Symphony,

who will receive the Vision Award in Arts and Education. More information on the event can be found at the Charter Oak Web site.

Kassow has been the full-time director of Hillel since 2001. She is married to Charles H. Northam Professor of History Samuel Kassow and has two daughters. Born in Buffalo, N.Y., Kassow graduated from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Penn., with a B.A. in Fine Arts. After graduating, she went to Jerusalem where she was an award-winning photojournalist, and met her husband. Together, they moved back to the United States. Kassow first became involved with the

Charter Oak Cultural Center in Hartford when she showed an exhibit of artwork and images of life in Israel.

Before coming to work at Trinity, she was Director of Arts, Culture and Education at the Greater Hartford Jewish Community Center in West Hartford for about seven years. During her residence, she started the Jewish Film

Festival, co-sponsored by Trinity College. "We created synergy in the community for people who otherwise might never have come," Kassow said. "We had some really exciting experiences. We brought filmmakers from all over the world." In addition to creating the film festival, Kassow also supervised the Hartford Jewish Book Festival for seven years, during which she helped to bring several notables in Jewish literature to the Greater Hartford Region. At approximately the same time, the Jewish Studies Program at Trinity was formed, and the Hillel House opened on Vernon Street in 2001. Kassow was hired as its full-time director.

"Lisa is everyone's quintessential Jewish mother; she feeds us, takes care of us and makes sure we are happy [...] She makes [Hillel] a warm and pleasant environment for the entire student body."

Thea Button '11



# ConnPIRG Promotes Sustainability

continued from page 1

concept of a completely solar powered concert was really awesome." Nusuti believes the concert went well: "When we began to perform, not that many people were around, but people began to gather because of the music. We really enjoyed performing at Solar Jam, and I just wish more student groups had performed as well because it had the potential to be a much larger

event."

According to Cline, the goal of ConnPIRG is, "to make Trinity sustainable overall. The specific changes needed are best determined by an energy audit to see where we're losing the most energy. That being said, myself and many students agree that encouraging public transport among students, green buildings on campus, and energy conservation are the best solutions. These are not over-

whelmingly constly, but have huge potential to reduce emissions."

Cline believes energy conservation can be achieved through many small acts that are often overlooked, such as "switching a light bulb, using energy-star appliances, turning your lights and computers off at night. We can all make little everyday changes that I believe will collectively save the planet."

Many believe that Trinity is not currently a particularly green campus. But to Cline this simply means the campus has that much more potential to save energy. Included in the event was the signing of a petition to present to President Jones, which asks for his support in ConnPIRG's endeavors to make Trinity more sustainable. As Meehan says, "Our campus is not very green, but we are working to make it greener. I hope the administration will be willing to make the buildings that they are going to renovate or rebuild more energy efficient."

Cline believes the event was a success. "We handed out nearly 200 smoothies, and more people stopped by to listen to the music. We accomplished our goal: to do something fun that showed campus the opportunities with solar energy."



Jordyn Sims

ConnPIRG's Solar Jam featured music and smoothies powered by a solar panel.

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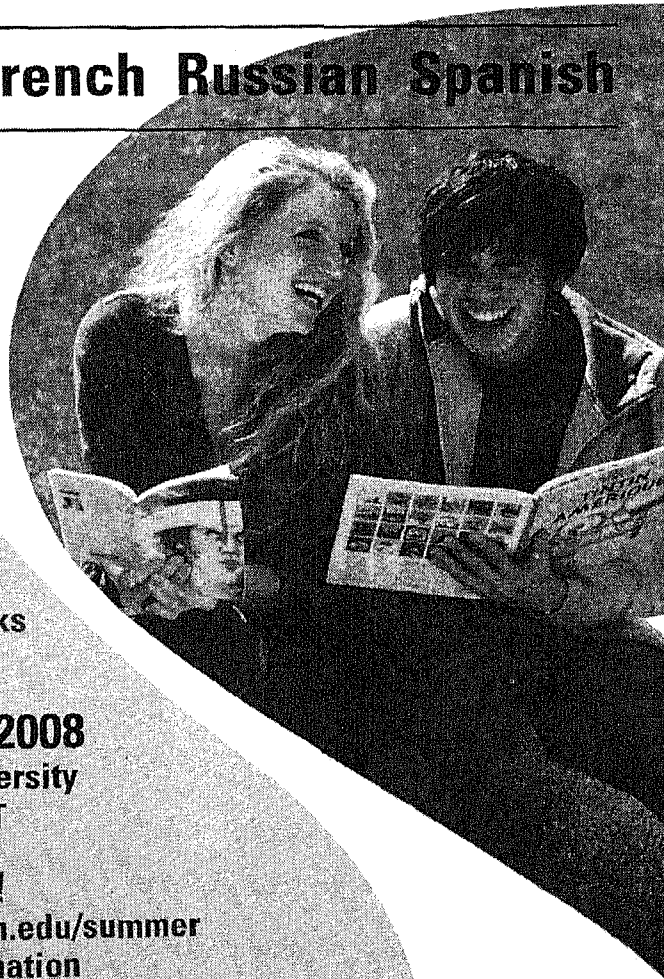
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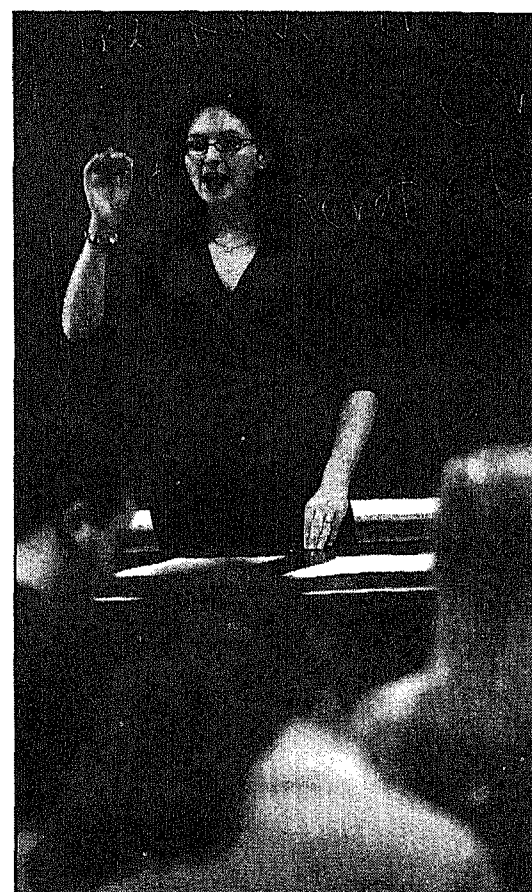
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# Anonymous Tip Leads to Investigation

continued from page 1

On their employment applications, Campus Safety officers are asked, "Have you ever been convicted of a crime more serious than a traffic violation? Have you ever been convicted of a felony?" stated Alford.

According to the Trinity College Web site, the College's policy on background checks (effective August 1, 2007) states, "College employees must notify the Office of Human Resources within five days of a conviction for a misdemeanor, felony, or any drug, alcohol, or sex-related offense.

Failure to report such conviction is grounds for disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment."

College Policy does not require background checks after an employee has been hired. However, "if Trinity becomes aware of an allegation of a serious misdoing or of an arrest, there certainly would be an investigation and subsequent appropriate action would be taken," according to Michele Jacklin, Director of Media Relations.

Human Resources refused to provide the *Tripod* with a comment.

Representatives of the Campus Safety Department refused to meet with the *Tripod* or give a comment.

President Elect of the Student Government Association, Nathan Kirschbaum '09, said of the dismissal, "Clearly this is a surprising and unfortunate incident. It is good to see that the administration has taken swift action because the first priority should always be that students are safe. Going forward, we need to learn from this and examine our safeguards to make sure that things like this don't happen again."

# Council Tackles Events, Co-Curricular Initiatives

continued from page 1

life," she said. "We're just here to facilitate the process."

Four students serve on the council, only one of whom is graduating this spring. Brooks Barhydt '08 has focused on the social life at Trinity, and "how best to alter or emphasize the various social options on campus," he said. He has worked closely with the Student Government Association (SGA) and the Trinity College Activities Council (TCAC). The houses on North Campus are one facet of the work being done to improve social options, and Read calls this initiative "the most significant."

The Vernon Allen Planning Committee announced the occupant of the four available houses after considering student proposals. According to an e-mail sent by the Committee, the four houses will bring "more variety, vibrancy, and innovation to the intellectual, cultural, and social life of the College."

Bayt Al Salaam, "The House of Peace," will be dedicated to exploring Middle Eastern culture. "[The house will] offer students, faculty and staff an opportunity to experience Middle Eastern culture right here at Trinity and obtain a positive perspective on the region's politics, culture, religions, and so forth because in today's world the Middle East is allows shown in a negative light," Mohammed Zahriyeh '10 explained. "The Arab American Association and I will work really hard to offer students an outlet to learn about the region from educational lectures and events that highlight Middle Eastern food, dance, culture and many other amazing things." Zahriyeh highlights the ability of the house to create a more inclusive Trinity.

The Treehouse is a commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility. Elisabeth Cianciola '10 explains that the house will provide educational resources about green living, have open space for groups to hold social events, and engage in active involvement with the Hartford community. "The Treehouse will change the social atmosphere on campus because it will be built on the principles of sustainable living and respect for nature," Cianciola said. "It is my dream that, because of the Treehouse, the Long Walk will become the main trail at Trinity: everyone will feel comfortable greeting each other as they walk by, no one will leave litter there, and people will want to walk or bike instead of driving."

The I House will be devoted to interactions between International students, the Trinity community, and Hartford. Tomas Kavanagh '11, one of the houses organizers,

explained, "Through holding discourses relevant to Trinity and internationally, we hope to create a more 'Glocal' campus, aware both of itself locally and its position on the wider global stage." They wish to ease the adjustment to American life for International students and give them more opportunities to get involved in the campus community.

The Mill, the fourth house chosen, will be dedicated to artistic expression. According to the e-mail sent to the campus community, "the group plans to create an intimate performance and gallery space on the first floor as well as space to socialize." Other aspects of the house will include a shop selling campus art, a recording studio, a design and photography lab, and the Trinity radio and television stations.

Meg Fitzsimmons, Director of College Events and Conferences, is the co-chair of the Campus Climate Council Events Committee, another one of the Council's initiatives. The Committee is charged with improving the coordination and communication of events and activities throughout campus and Hartford, assisting in creating events and activities to both students and faculty, collaborating with existing committees, and supporting the possible consolidation of student organizations and resources. Fitzsimmons believes that "the Council has the ability to institute change [...] I have felt the willingness and readiness to assist in the recommendations of Council."

Co-curricular and faculty activities, a third initiative, have been the focus of Charles A. Dana Research Professor Gary Reger. First, the Council is working on reviving the old co-curricular initiatives that were successful in the 1990s, which brought students and faculty together to work on collaborative projects inside and outside of the classroom. "These initiatives all addressed questions [of] race, class, politics, and power, issues that are relevant to building a better community at Trinity," said Reger. Maurice Wade, Professor of Philosophy, is working to revive the initiatives of the 1990 and bring together diverse groups of engaged students and faculty through events such as the International Hip Hop Festival. The council is also looking to improve the mentoring process for new faculty, and along with Dean of Faculty Rena Fraden have created a Center for Teaching and Learning.

The Council additionally continues to have discussions with leaders of various first-year programs about how students are introduced to the city of Hartford and how to improve student engagement at Trinity.

## News In Brief

### Senior Ed Walters Wins Clarendon Scholarship

Ed Walters '08 has been awarded the Clarendon Scholarship by the University of Oxford in Oxford, England. He will use the scholarship to earn a Masters of Science Degree in comparative social policy. The Clarendon scholarship is awarded to students outside of the United Kingdom based solely on merit. Walters will graduate from Trinity College this spring with a B.A. in English literature.

### Bishop Brownell Statue Conserved

On Monday, April 28 the conservation of the Bishop Brownell statue on the main quadrangle began. Scaffolding was erected in order to begin the conservation, and the statue will be washed and areas where the bronze has been damaged with be repatinated. The entire process is aimed to take between five and 10 working days. The statue depicts Bishop Thomas Brownell, who founded Trinity College in the spring of 1823.

### Area 2 Residence Halls Face Hot Water Shortage

On Sunday, April 28 the Student Government Association (SGA) was notified that students living in dorms in Area 2 including Elton, Jones, Wheaton, Funston, and Smith did not have any hot water. The SGA contacted the Dean of Students and Director of Facilities and it was discovered that the problem resulted from a malfunctioning boiler. On Tuesday a temporary boiler was set up in Jones and hot water was restored.

### The Fred Pfeil Community Project Dedication

On Tuesday, April 29 a ceremony was held in the Fred dedicated to Fred Pfeil, the beloved English professor whom the Fred Pfeil Community Project is named after. At the ceremony, memories were shared and students and professors spoke about what he meant to them, and his favorite poems were read. His wife was present to donate his personal library. One of his books was available for free and the others were available for sale.

## Intercollegiate Update

### University of Rhode Island

An accidental kitchen fire left three University of Rhode Island sophomores homeless and damaged about \$25,000 worth of belongings and left \$75,000 worth of damage. The fire started when the students were making homemade donuts and the pot of oil ignited, burning down the kitchen. The three residents were safely evacuated.

### Wesleyan University

The University's Summer Language Institute decided to cancel its French and Spanish language offerings, due to low enrollment in both languages. This follows a nation-wide trend of difficulties attracting students for summer programs, perhaps due to the current state of the economy.

### University of Connecticut

Mansfield is holding a "Rid Litter" Day on May 3, offering students an opportunity to help clean the area after the raucous Spring Weekend. This event has been held for the past 17 years. The event corresponds with Adopt-A-Road, during which about 80 people make a year round commitment to keep a designated road clean.

### College of the Holy Cross

Junior Steven Hickey was recently given the prestigious Maurizio Vannicelli Washington Semester Away Program award for his thesis, titled "An 'F' for Determining Accountability: Problem Definition and the No Child Left Behind Act." During his semester in D.C., Hickey interned for Senator Barack Obama.

### University of Hartford

During Community Day on Saturday, April 20, the University hosted the children's play "Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse" in the Auerbach auditorium. The humorous play, starring University students, was fast-paced and witty and kept the children, as well as their parents amused.

### Muskingum College

For the third year in a row, Muskingum College in Ohio dedicated Saturday, April 26 to cleaning up the college community. Renew the Environment of New Concord's (RENEW) spring cleanup day had a focus this year on litter cleanup, in an event titled "Let's Pick up New Concord."



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# FEATURES

The Trinity Tripod

## Relay For Life Raises Both Money and Awareness for Cancer

JOHN DOWNES-ANGUS  
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

I'm glad that my cousin chose last weekend to visit Trinity College, because he witnessed a rare and exciting event that reflected well on our student body: Trinity students from a variety of groups coming together for a common cause. The Third Annual Relay for Life was on Saturday, April 26, an impressive event with music, speeches,

and one thing that always attracts people whose meal schedules revolve around that of a dining hall: free food.

Relay for Life is the brainchild of a colorectal surgeon named Gordy Klatt began in 1986. In May 1985, in an effort to raise funds for his local American Cancer Society office, Klatt ran for more than 83 miles over a span of 24 hours, raising \$27,000. His efforts marked the inception of this powerful tradi-

tion.

This year's event was the product of Hannah Charry '09, Leighann Kinter '08, Sarah Knox '08, and Jennifer Wise '08's theme housing project. Kinter informed me that, as members of the "Make a Wish Club" last year, they decided to take their philanthropic pursuits a step further this year by helping to orchestrate Relay For Life. They invested a year's worth of work and raised \$43,000 for the

American Cancer Society.

The success of this event extended beyond its obvious benefits to the American Cancer Society. It was a great way of bringing our campus together. I spoke with Wendy Zhao '10, a volunteer in the "Information Tent," a tent that one might call the "Tent of Terror," with its fake cancerous testicles and hideous fake smoker's lung. She said that she liked this event because it "encompasses all of the groups on campus." Philanthropic functions such as this eliminate social boundaries by stating a common goal and asking everyone to work together toward that goal. This flash of community was brief, but it showed that we do all know how to come together.

While on the subject of our campus community, Trinity's Greek community deserves to be commended for their efforts in this project. Kinter informed me, "One hundred and fifty of the 500 participants in this event were members of either a sorority or fraternity."

Many of the participants had close relationships with cancer survivors or with people who had died of cancer. Ryan Haney, a representative of The Fred's team, said that members of his team participated to "honor

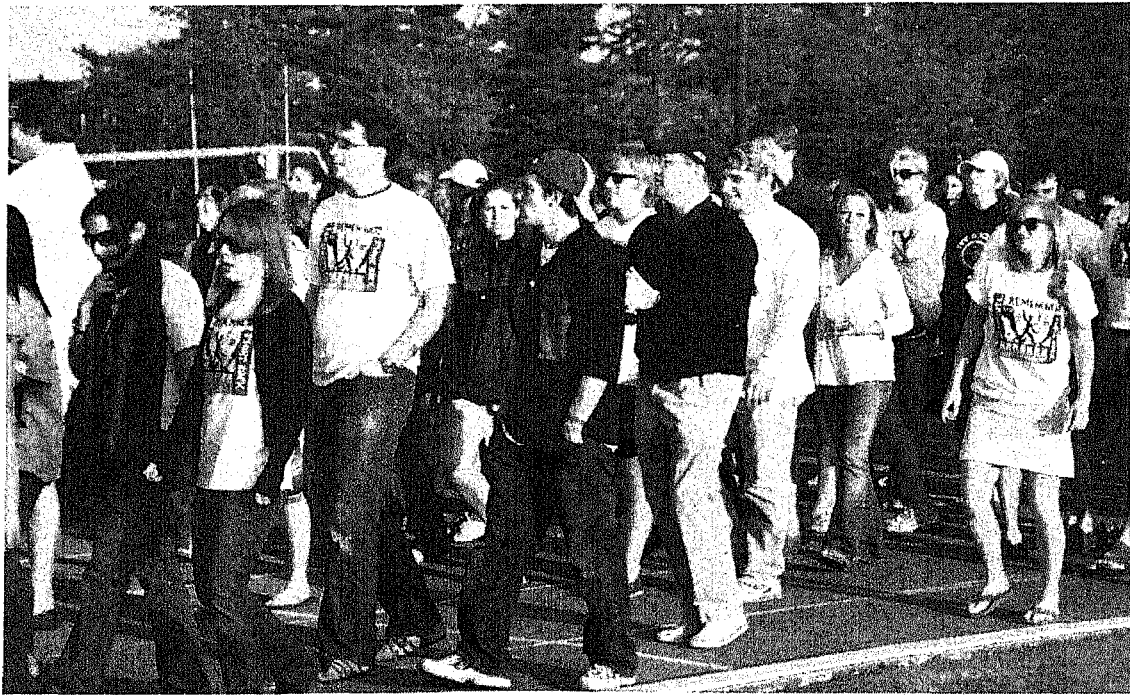
everything that [Fred Pfeil] did." Fred Pfeil passed away in 2005 because of melanoma, a type of skin cancer. Participant E.J. Ewald '11 said that two of her best friends from high school had mothers who survived cancer. Luminarias were set up around the track, which students purchased as a donation to honor or remember victims and survivors of cancer.

However, not everyone was there because of personal connections to cancer. When I asked Emily Weber '11 why she chose to participate she simply responded, "Why not?"

The turnout proved that we need more people who are willing to say, "Why not?" \$43,000 deserves admiration. What should not be admired is the fact that we saw a \$35,000 decrease from last year's \$78,000. We can only blame ourselves for this decrease. The organizers of this event did a magnificent job, but organization and advertisement can only go so far in a function such as this one. These events are contingent upon participation.

This event had potential for being a fun one, with musical performances from a cappella groups and even a "Middle

see CHARITY on page 15



Jordyn Sims

Students and faculty circle the track at the annual Relay For Life in the afternoon on Saturday, April 26, to raise money for cancer research.

## Global Warming Problem Escalates

KRYSTAL RAMIREZ  
OPINIONS EDITOR

Last Wednesday, April 23, Robert K. Musil, Scholar in Residence and Adjunct Professor in the School of International Studies at American University, visited Trinity College as part of Earth week events organized by Green Campus and ConnPIRG's Campus Climate Challenge. He spoke about "Hope for a Heated Planet: What Campuses and Citizens Are Doing To Fight Global Warming," a theme from his forthcoming book to be published in the fall, which he jokingly promoting throughout his presentation.

Musil was introduced by Anne Bonfiglio '10, who thanked the American Studies, Environmental Science, Political Science, and Public Policy and Law Departments for co-sponsoring the talk. He began his lecture by discussing three things that had happened within the last week: the

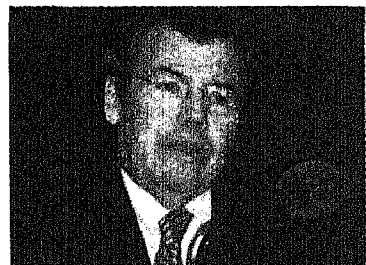
Pope's visit to the U.S., President George W. Bush's announcement that the U.S. should halt its growth of carbon emissions by 2025, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) report that the average global temperature last March was the warmest on record. Musil said that the media's coverage of the Pope had nothing to do with his stances on any issues – for instance, not many people know that the Catholic Church considers contributing to or not helping to stop global warming a sin. Also, he pointed out that while Bush's announcement might have been a big step, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, a body of leading experts and scientists, have actually called for a 20 percent reduction in carbon emissions by 2020. Furthermore, there was hardly any coverage at all of the NOAA's report.

Musil transitioned to explaining about how environmentalists in 1998 pressured President Bill Clinton and former Vice President Al Gore to sign the Kyoto Protocol, albeit symbolically. Musil called this tactic by the environmental groups an "elite strategy," an attempt to work from the top down; however, it backfired. Many large corporations, including big oil companies, turned it around and began to

work in grassroots, telling the American public that compliance would hurt the economy. The environmental movement, according to Musil, was unprepared and thus lost the battle.

The key for the movement was in moving from a doom and gloom attitude to one of hope, Musil said, in shifting the approach from arcane jargon and making people feel guilty to using common sense terminology and offering solutions. It was almost too late though, Musil recounted, as there were already lots of false science propaganda out from the energy lobby. He explained that environmental groups overcame this and organized instead from the bottom-up, at the state and local levels and had incredible success.

Overall, Musil was friendly, outgoing, and clear, talking to the audience in a very straightforward fashion. He emphasized the fact that one could be pessimistic, considering the fact that Gore held his first Senate hearings on global warming in 1988, and 20 years later nothing had happened. He even called Bush's time in office "the dark years." But he ended on a positive note, complimenting students for their involvement, telling those listening, "You can make an incredible difference – you are the hope and the leaders we're waiting for."



Krystal Ramirez

Robert K. Musil discusses relevant issues of global warming on campus on Wednesday.



### J. Ronald Spencer

Associate Academic  
Dean  
&  
History Professor

*This Week Carver interviews J. Ronald Spencer (JRS), Associate Academic Dean, originally from St. Michaels, Md.*

**Carver Diserens:** You're retiring at the end of this year, what are your plans?

**J. Ronald Spencer:** Yes, but I'm going to be back about 40 percent next year.

**Carver:** In what respect?

**JRS:** I'm going to teach a course each term because I've done that forever. I'm going to continue to direct Guided Studies. I'll continue to work with the president's fellows and the presidential scholars. I'll continue to administer the Trustee Excellence Awards for faculty and students. Rena Braden told me that there

might be the occasional special project she'll want me to do. [Carver: And that is 40 percent.]

**Carver:** According to Ernest Hemingway, "Retirement is the ugliest word in the language." Agree or disagree?

**JRS:** I think "death" outweighs it, and there are a lot of other things worse than retirement. I've thought about it a fair amount, and I don't imagine most people approach it with anything other than mixed feelings, which is why I'm glad to be able to phase it down. To go "cold turkey" for someone who is as much of a workaholic as I am, would be hard to take. At the same time, if you put in a lot of 70 or 80-hour-a-week days over a period of 40 years,

see DEAN on page 14



# Senior's Search for Perfect Husband

ASHLEY BELL  
SENIOR EDITOR

Now that the whole school-work thing is out of the way, I have the time to focus on the real reason I came to Trinity: to get my "Mrs. Degree." If I'm going to accumulate alimony, I need to start right away. Screw graduation and the whole walking over the plaque thing, the only thing I wanted to walk down is the chapel aisle as part of my fantasy pink and green wedding. No more of this Late-Night, half-assed effort to find a bofo-turned-future-hubby, I now had to buckle down and put more effort into this than I had put into my thesis. I decided to rework my entire class schedule for the best guy-spying opportunities. Forget the Art History and Creative Writing classes, no one wants a needy B.F. who likes to do weird things like

write poetry and stare incessantly at splatters on a canvas. And thus, since I needed a diverse selection of eligible undergrad bachelors, I needed a diverse class schedule. Behold, my quest for Mr. Right.

## Monday 8:30 a.m. Golf:

Since nothing would please me more than to settle down right after graduation and start a perfectly preppy Trin fam, I decided my first stop should be the golf course. Whoever decided that 8:30 a.m. was a good time for a golf class was clearly not trying to look like wife material. How the hell am I supposed to be perfectly coiffed and find the perfect tee-off outfit if I've never seen the early side of 9 a.m. in my entire college career? But since this is a week-long sprint, I decide to suck it up and argyle-up a little extra early. So, I trek it out there, and things

are already looking up when I realize that the Ken-doll-like is the instructor. Ka-ching! Yes, that is the sound of my first divorce settlement. Then the Polo-clad class shows up, and I weighed my current options. After about a minute and a half, I got pretty sick of looking at these Tiger Woods-wannabe fetuses. It was less than encouraging until I noticed the too-cool-for-school guy who didn't tuck in his Polo and rubbed his club right before his stroke (if you know what I mean). This could be a hole-in-one ... although not literally (future wives don't do that until there's a little blue box in the picture).

## Tuesday 2:50 p.m. History 113:

Having made a minor accomplishment, I decided to

see *STUDENT* on page 15

# USMC Captain on Present Day Iraq

MARISSA POWERS  
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

Nathaniel Fick, U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) Captain, *New York Times* best-selling author, and CBS News military affairs expert spoke last Thursday in Vernon Social Center to a captive audience of faculty, students, and guests on the Iraqi War and Middle East conflict.

This year's Annual Clement Lecture was hosted by St. Anthony's Hall (The Hall) and the History Department, and organized by Lila Claghorn '08. The Annual Clement Lecture series which is sponsored by the The Hall's Literary Society, brings to Trinity College prolific writers and journalists from all backgrounds and expertise.

Fick served as a marine officer in Iraq and Afghanistan from 2001-2003, serving both in times of peace prior to the conflict and as an instructor and advisor in the years following his official tours of duty.

Nate Fick joined the Marines after attending Officer Candidate School following his junior year at Dartmouth College. Upon graduating Dartmouth with high honors in Classics he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the USMC. September of 2001 found Fick on a peacetime cruise with his troops through the Pacific. The tragedies of September 11, 2004 were watched from a small TV behind the bar in northern Australia. The next morning Fick's troop was shipped off to Afghanistan.

Fick's 45-minute talk provided intimate details of the climate throughout his tours, the Iraqi people met, and the challenges faced. Fick even providing maps of his route taken from Afghanistan, through southern Iraq, and up into Baghdad. Fick spoke of the initial enthusiasm of the Iraqi people, and of the southern Iraqi troops surrendering for free meals, prior to American



Courtesy of Marissa Powers

United States Marine Corps Captain Nathaniel Fick poses for the camera in military apparel.

arrival further north. He spoke of the transition from peace to hostility, and the conversion of the enemy from uniformed soldiers to military disguised as civilians, and, in many cases, civilians themselves.

Perhaps the most gripping aspect of Fick's talk was the analysis of the period following the fall of Baghdad. The U.S. invasion was initially greeted with general approval and even exultation from the Iraqi people. However, when necessities such as electricity, rations, and employment failed to follow, the U.S. troops ended up subjects of frustration and resentment, the personification of broken promises for many. This has been, more or less, the state of the War the last four years; the U.S. trying desperately to gain

control of a state that is divided, and resistant to hand control over to a world superpower.

In the hour-long question and answer session following the talk, Fick fielded inquiries such as if he thought the U.S. entered Iraq knowing full well there were no WMDs to be found. The fact alone that the entire party in attendance remained for over an hour solely to ask questions speaks volumes for Fick's resolute ability to connect to his audience.

Following the lecture, Nate joined the Hall brothers, as well as faculty and guests, to a reception and dinner on Ogilby Quad hosted by the Literary Society. The Quirks performed, and later Fick continued to engage in conversation throughout the evening.

## Top 5

### Ways To Get Through Finals

5. Drink your weight in coffee.

4. Put a "Do Not Disturb" sign on your door. Effective (and people will think you're getting laid).

3. Eat healthfully - fruit, nuts, fish and grains are way better than beer.

2. Go to the library. It's conducive to getting work done and social!

1. Spend the time you are not studying relaxing on the sunny quad!

# Rock Stars Come Out at Best Buddies Dance '08

MIKE ROBINSON  
SPORTS EDITOR

This past Saturday, April 26, the Best Buddies Organization, an outreach program to help mentally-handicapped adults, held its annual Spring Dance, culminating another successful year. The dance incorporated all Best Buddies groups state-wide and was extremely well attended. The "buddies" (or mentally-handicapped adults) came in great style for the "Rock Star" theme as some buddies wore matching outfits with their volunteers, while many others donned Elvis Presley costumes.

In addition, no one had any inhibitions about busting a move. For instance, sophomore SwimBant Emily Cote's buddy, Troy, raced past the delicious food and spectacular raffle prizes at the entrance to go straight to the dance floor and do the electric slide to James Brown's "I Feel Good." Emily and I had to drag him off of it two hours later when it was time to go, but like the rest of the participants he would have danced all night if the music kept playing.

Bianca Sims '09, head of Trinity College's Best Buddies chapter, was honored for her tireless effort and her generous heart during the dance as she received one of the highest awards from the program directors.

Finally, it should be acknowledged that the volunteers from Trinity College sacrificed part of their precious Spring Weekend to drive down to Bristol Eastern High School for this event. None of the members had any hesitations about making the trip and showed great enthusiasm throughout the entire dance. In fact, freshman TJ Tarca and senior Jared Boyd were quite a

hit on the dance floor as numerous female buddies fought each other to earn a chance to dance with these special men. Overall, both buddies and volunteers enjoyed themselves and it was a fitting end to another excellent year for the Connecticut program.

As Trinity's Best Buddies chapter wraps up the 2007-2008 year, it would like to thank a few people for their superior work and look ahead to the 2008-2009 campaign. First, Sims should be recognized for her outstanding job this year as the director of the chapter. She has faced many difficulties and has consistently found a way to fight through them. For example, the Chapter was placed on probation at the beginning of the year for failing to meet some of the program's goals, but she has guided the program through it with her diligence and perseverance. Also, the Chapter was extremely fortunate to have a large number of freshman volunteers sign up and keep to their commitment. This young wave of volunteers will provide experienced leadership in the years to come and hopefully inspire the incoming freshman to do the same. Moreover, when asked about his commitment to Best Buddies, freshman Harry Melendez said, "It is great. I sacrifice a small amount of my time to hang out with my buddy and it means the world to him. Plus, it gives me an excuse to get off campus and see a movie or eat food that Chartwell's does not make." This type of attitude reflects the dedication and motivation of all the Best Buddy volunteers that have helped to make our chapter a success. We hope that we can keep this momentum going into next year, so we can continue this tradition of service and compassion.

# Dean Spencer on Mace, Trinity's Past, and Underground Tunnels

continued from page 12

you might want to cut back some.

**Carver:** Correct me if I'm wrong, but are you the first ever Associate Academic Dean?

**JRS:** I think so, because I invented the title in 1980. I had been Dean of Studies and they were doing some reorganization and President Lockwood wanted me to stay on. So I asked to be the Associate Academic Dean because I wanted to work on curriculum and make the other person Jack Waggett, who was working more with the administration, the Associate Administrative Dean. [The idea] was kicked around for a while, and then finally, Ted Lockwood decided that they were good terms.

**Carver:** What exactly does the position entail?

**JRS:** The job has evolved over the years. I have been the Secretary of the Curriculum Committee, I was the Secretary of General Education Council when it has existed. That means dealing with a range of day-to-day curricular issues, requests from departments, requests from students who want to design their own major or their own minor, students who want to do a student-taught course. There is a lot of mundane, unglamorous work. I also found myself writing a lot of curricular-related reports. I wrote the report that recommended that the faculty establish a major in computer science, others were involved but I had to sum it up. Same thing in the theatre and dance department. I've also helped work towards the creating of all the Gateway Programs.

**Carver:** Who is replacing you?

**JRS:** [Associate Professor of Chemistry] Tom Mitzel is going to come in next year. I'll be around this summer to help him if he needs help transitioning and I told him that I will not have an unlisted phone number next year.

**Carver:** You graduated from Trinity in 1964. What has been the most dramatic change, in your eyes, since that time?

**JRS:** Hands down, coeducation. It's the single most visible, dramatic and important event in the modern history of the College. There are a lot of other important development but I think that it hands down changed this place for the better in more ways than you and I can count in a month of Sundays. Trinity went coeducational a year ahead of most other colleges. The first year

was mostly transfer students because we started a little too late to get incoming freshmen. By getting a head start, we got a group of extraordinary, capable students. So any skepticism about coeducation vanished almost immediately once the women got here.

**Carver:** As a former member of the *Tripod* and the faculty advisor to our current Editor-in-Chief, what is your take on the direction of the paper, specifically related to the petition that appeared two weeks ago and the subsequent responses from students and administrators?

**JRS:** Well, it's a fair question, and I'm not sure I can give you a satisfactory answer. I read President Jones' statement, but I don't really know much about overall student reaction. It's unusual for a newspaper to run several pages full of signatures. The thing that it reminded me of was sometime in the late 30s when H.L. Mencken, the famous curmudgeon journalist, was head of the *Baltimore Evening Sun*. He was very much opposed to the New Deal. To demonstrate the awful things he thought the New Deal was doing, he published in one issue, dots representing every person employed by the Federal Government, because he thought that it had become too big. We're talking about hundreds of thousands of people, so he had pages and pages of dots. It was a novel use of newspapers to make a point, and I thought of it when I saw all those signatures all over the *Tripod*. It's an analogous thing. It's the kind of thing, and Mencken would know this, you don't do it more than once in a lifetime, because it will go from being clever to people saying, "It's been done." That isn't necessarily endorsing or not endorsing what the petition said, but it really caught my eye.

**Carver:** You would have just graduated before the 1964 issue that portrayed the same type of public petition on the front page (against making the campus dry). I've heard some students complain that because of the different nature of the two issues, it didn't make as much sense to structure it the same way. In the first instance, it can be a purely administrative decision. In the second instance, it's more of a general issue about safety.

**JRS:** That's certainly a believable distinction. I'm very reluctant to second-guess the editorial decisions of the editors of the student newspaper, unless they do something really vile. In this case, there was nothing vile about it. Was it warranted? Ask five different people you'll get five different answers. I'm sorry I don't



Jordyn Sims

Dean Spencer working at his laptop in his office during his last semester as Associate Academic Dean. Books have clearly accumulated.

have some sort of fire breathing answer for you, but I thought it was a clever thing.

**Carver:** You usually get to carry the mace [historically a heavy club with a metal head and spikes, also a ceremonial staff of office] at graduation every year. Do you think that maybe our campus safety officers should be equipped with them?

**JRS:** You mean spray mace?

**Carver:** No, I mean the medieval weapon.

**JRS:** Traditionally it goes back to the days of royalty. When a king entered a room, someone came ahead of him carrying a mace. If you go way, way back, it was a defensive weapon. Increasingly it came to symbolize the king's power.

**Carver:** So you've never taken a swing at anyone with it?

**JRS:** No, I often worry that when I throw it up on my shoulder that I might hit the president. Also, for similar ceremonies, the president wears a collar that is a symbol of the power of his office. For many years, both the mace and the collar were kept in that big walk-in vault in Williams. When gold prices went soaring during the Carter administration, we decided to have the mace evaluated for replacement value. This was in the late 70s, and they took it to someone who knows about these things, and he said, "Well, it will cost about \$40,000 to replace." And they've been locked up ever since then.

**Carver:** I've been told that you are a fairly big Trinity history buff. Can you tell me anything interesting about the school that I might not know?

**JRS:** I'm always amazed by how intense conflicts between students and faculty were back in the early years of the college. There was one episode

when the school was at its original location down on Capital Hill. The students barricaded the College and wouldn't let the faculty come in. The increasingly angry faculty stood down at the door making threats. They did finally manage to somehow break a door. Remember the students lived in one of those buildings and these were the days before indoor plumbing, so they had slop buckets. Before the angry faculty managed to break down the door, several of the buckets were emptied on them.

On a more serious level, when I first came here as a faculty member in 1968, we were in the midst of a period of a lot of political turmoil. As you may know, in 1970, there were three events related to the Vietnam War that horrified numerous people, particularly on college campuses. One was what Richard Nixon called "the incursion" into Cambodia. The second was the killing of several students at Kent State by the National Guard. The third is often overlooked but was very much in our minds at the time there were also student protesters who were killed at Jackson State in Mississippi, which was a historically black public college. There was a great deal of turmoil on this campus. The faculty here agreed that there would be a strike. They decided that it would be a non-coercive strike. Faculty would go to their classes, and if students wanted to take their classes, they could go to them and receive the instruction that they had paid for. We also said that anyone who felt moved by political commitment did not have to go to classes. They would be exempted from finals so that they could concentrate on political work. I'm sure some students took advantage and spent their days at the beach, but there was a very large number of students who acted on the opportunity to take various actions to reverse the course of what was going on in Southeast Asia. I think it was a very proud moment for

Trinity College. Other colleges just cancelled their classes and were later sued for not providing the education that had been paid for.

**Carver:** Do you know anything about the tunnels under Jarvis?

**JRS:** Well, are they really tunnels?

**Carver:** I don't know.

**JRS:** It used to be that you could go the entire length of the Long Walk at the basement level. I did it occasionally. Under the Northam Towers, there was a big, dirty, spider-filled place that had been a carpenter shop at some early point in the history of this campus. When the registrar moved into the basement of Seabury, it was used as an overflow place for them for old records. So once that was locked up, you couldn't continuously walk the entire length of the Long Walk. But I don't think there are tunnels.

**Carver:** Do you have any final message you would like to share with the Trinity community?

**JRS:** Colleges like Trinity are anomalies in our society. They only enroll about 5 percent of all the college students in the United States. They are wonderful anomalies. I do sometimes worry that they are in danger of becoming hopeless anachronisms. Even though we account for a small portion of the total student body in American higher education, we provide a singularly valuable role. As costs go up, as liberal arts colleges are tempted to become like universities, as specialization continues to grow, it's possible that these kinds of institutions will outlive their usefulness. I don't think it will happen anytime soon, but I do worry. I think places like Trinity, and all the other usual suspects, need to be very resourceful over the next several decades, to make sure that they remain wonderfully anomalous.





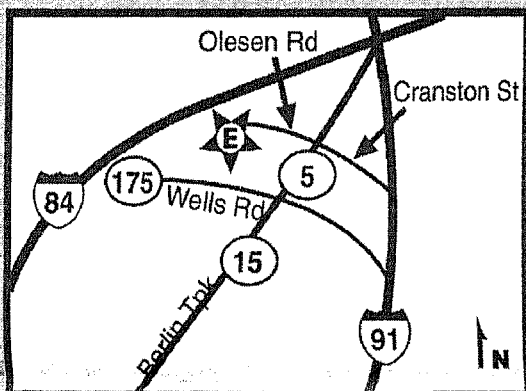


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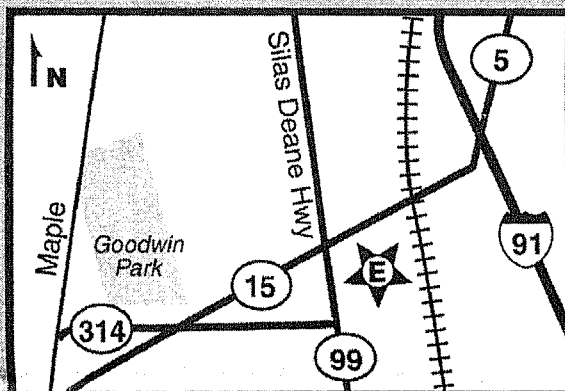
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# ARTS

The Trinity Tripod

## Bring on the Popcorn: The Best to Come in Summer Movies



JAMES KUKSTIS  
NEWS EDITOR

Summer is traditionally a time for blockbuster movies. Last summer was particularly huge in the movie arena, full of "threequels" that were mostly panned critically but commercially huge. Summer 2008 looks to have quite a few gems as well.

### Speed Racer

The Wachowski Brothers' (*The Matrix* trilogy) first writing and directing effort since 2003's *The Matrix Revolutions*, this movie's advertisements look amazing, colorful, and fun. Despite rumors to the contrary, they are still brothers and not siblings, as reports of a Larry Wachowski sex change have been debunked. Emile Hirsch (*Into the Wild*) stars, along with John Goodman, Susan Sarandon, and Christina Ricci, in this live action remake of the 1960s animated series of the same name. Look for bright colors, fast cars, and Hirsch proving himself to his family. Should be nuts.

Friday, May 9.

### The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian

The sequel to 2005's highly enjoyable (for some reason) *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, this movie should prove to be an equally large hit, especially considering the large Christian fan base of C.S. Lewis' work. Having only read the book of the first movie, though, I have no idea what this movie is about, and doubt many people do.

Friday, May 16.

### Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull

As a young boy growing up watching the original *Star Wars* and *Indiana Jones* movies, I was super excited for the *Star Wars* prequels. Let's not talk about those movies. This installment of the *Indiana Jones* saga looks unlikely to disappoint, with a stellar cast (Harrison Ford and Karen Allen reprising their roles, and Cate Blanchett and Shia LaBeouf making their *Indiana Jones* debut) and the most respected commercial director ever (Steven Spielberg).

Friday, May 23.

### Sex and the City

Half hour TV show x 4 + bigger budget + 4 years = lavish production, ridiculous clothes, and millions of American women getting their Carries, Samanthas, Mirandas, and Charlottes on.

Friday, May 30.

### The Incredible Hulk

Let's just hope this version is better than the Ang Lee (*Brokeback Mountain* and *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*) directed mess that was 2003's *Hulk*. Edward Norton, Liv Tyler, William Hurt, and Tim Roth star.

Friday, June 13.

### Get Smart

The only reason I am including this movie here is because of Dlisted.com goddess Pheobe Price, who has been claiming to be a part of this movie since I started reading the blog. Whether or not she has any role remains a mystery. Steve

Carrell and Anne Hathaway star in this remake of the 1960s comedy spy show.

Friday, June 20.

### Love Guru

Mike Myers' first live action movie since 2003's brilliant *Cat in the Hat*, *Love Guru* looks to be mediocre. Any movie that also stars Jessica Alba and Justin Timberlake deserves, I feel, a raised eyebrow. It looks mildly politically incorrect and only somewhat humorous.

Friday, June 20.

### WALL-E

Pixar's follow-up to *Ratatouille*, the best film released in 2007, looks experimental and moving. It seems like Pixar is testing the waters as to how far they can go from mainstream and still be successful: there is little traditional dialogue in the film, which director Andrew Stanton (*Finding Nemo*) joked could be called "*R2D2: The Movie*." My prediction is a critical lauding followed by minor commercial success, which will be vindicated in the future as something of a "cult classic." I could be wrong.

Friday, June 27.

### Wanted

Somehow in between saving the world and raising an ark full of children, Angelina Jolie has found time to make movies. *Wanted* stars Jolie and James McAvoy (*The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe*, *Atonement*) as assassins. The story is irrelevant – it is an action movie starring Angelina. Tickets will be sold.

Friday, June 27.

see COMING on page 19



## Chapel Singers Pay Tribute to British Composers at Spring Concert

KRYSTAL RAMIREZ  
OPINIONS EDITOR

Any kind of music always sounds good in the Chapel with its great acoustic design, but last Friday, April 25, the Trinity College Chapel Singers' Spring Concert sounded especially pleasant. The pews were filled with an ample crowd from the Trinity community, including parents and students. They turned out for the annual performance, and it was clear from the applause at the end of the show that they all loved it.

The night began with an introduction by Director of Chapel Music John Rose. He explained that the group was starting on the east end of the Chapel in order to better use the space and highlight the singers' voices, as they were without instrumental accompaniment. It was a nice use of the venue. The singers themselves looked the part, in lovely pastels that suited them well. The scene matched the mild night outside, punctuated by birds chirping and twittering away, almost as if they were singing along.

The concert followed a theme of English music. Within this theme, the first song was *O nata lux de lumine* by composer Thomas Tallis. The music was calming and the epitome of holy. It was flowing and echoed in parts, and had many interesting moving phrases.

Next was *Ave Verum Corpus* by William Byrd. The singers sounded truly beautiful and emotive. The song evoked a classic, majestic feeling. *Haec dies* was the last song

of the first section of the concert. It, too, was wonderful, with the changing rhythm, and it sounded full. In total, it was a brief segment, which actually left the listener wanting more.

After a brief interval during which the singers proceeded briskly to the organ gallery, the piece de resistance came, titled *Rejoice in the Lamb* by Benjamin Britten. It was an exceptional song that showcased the talent of the group.

His performance was superb, powerful, and strong, and the instrument emitted deep vibrations that could actually be felt by the audience down in the pews.

The song is actually an adaptation of Christopher Smart's poem of the same name. Smart was an 18th century poet who, according to Anglican clergyman Walter Hussey, was "deeply religious, but of a strange and unbalanced mind."

He actually wrote the poem while in an asylum. Despite this fact, it does contain many flashes of genius. The main theme of the poem is the worship of God. The Chapel Singers' rendition began

with a measured and mysterious portion, then moved to a more vigorous, forceful rhythm with great organ accompaniment by Chao Liao '11. His performance was superb, powerful, and strong, and the instrument emitted deep vibrations that could actually be felt by the audience down in the pews. Then came a solo by soprano Christine Gilbert '11, whose voice sounded magical and angelic. It was quietly moving

and extremely well-done. A solo by counter-tenor Finley Harckham '10 followed that was fast, light, animated, and sweet, given the fun and playful lyrics about the mouse. Tenor Michael Magdelinskas-Vazquez '11 also exhibited his voice in a solo, dramatic but still smooth. The section was especially touching to the environmentalists in the crowd because of its mention of nature – for example, the closing line, "for flowers are pecu-

liarly the poetry of Christ." The next chorus was passionate, almost sounding chaotic, but harmonious at the same time. Afterward, Benjamin Feldman '10 had his time to shine, with his forceful solo, in which he hit a particularly good high note. The group ended gently and delightfully. Rose's song selection and ordering was terrific, and it seemed to be the perfect conclusion to the Chapel Singers' year.



Jordyn Sims

The Trinity College Chapel Singers performed in an embrace of springtime joy.



# Girl Talk Creates Revolutionary Music, Energizes Audience

JAMES KUKSTIS  
NEWS EDITOR

Planted in the middle of a stormy sea of millennials in the finest Urban Outfitters has to offer was I, your friendly *Tripod* News Editor. After buying tickets on a whim two months ago about 15 minutes after a friend directed me to a certain MySpace page, I made my way to Toad's Place in New Haven, Conn. to see the magic that is Girl Talk last Friday, April 25.

The stage name of Gregg Gillis, Girl Talk is a ridiculous mix of Top 40 songs from the past 15 years set to an infectious dance beat. His last album, *Night Ripper*, released in 2006, put 167 artists together in 16 tracks, a nearly inaccessible volume of source material collaborating together for beats hugely indicative of the culture from which they have emerged.

Girl Talk's only instrument is his laptop, wrapped in plastic to avoid the boatloads of sweat that drip from his body (according to reports he usually ends up near-naked by the end of his shows; Friday's ended with him still dressed, though soaked through). The plastic also protects it from the water thrown by audience members, themselves soaked to the skin with sweat from dancing to the beats he lays down. Any discomfort to the Neon Wayfarer-wearing crowd that evening was lessened by the intense feeling of community.

The show started with a sound check following the opener (Cambridge, Mass. based band Passion Pit) in which he recounted a girl who complained about this sound check style at a previous show ("Fuck that girl!" he yelled). Security then opened the stage up to show-goers, who stormed the stage, and Gillis himself, jumping around,



Girl Talk, a.k.a. Gregg Gillis, impressed a rowdy audience with unique sounds and inventive music in New Haven last week.

dancing, and crowd-surfing. A testament to the power of the beats, the simple folding table Gillis had set his laptop on was continuously rocked back and forth. Before his last song, Gillis thanked the girls around him who helped him keep the table stable, and

commented on the guys on the stage "jerking themselves off."

It would be impossible for me to list off all of the tracks he sampled and the songs he played; there were just too many. Personal sampled favorites included "Africa" by Toto, "Juicy" by The Notorious

B.I.G., and "Since U Been Gone" by Kelly Clarkson. It would also have been impossible to get through the entire set without recognizing at least one song, at least for most people with ears of the college age (according to Wikipedia we are

"Generation-Y" but that's wicked lame. Wikipedia also labels millennials, which Microsoft Word doesn't believe is actually a word, but the president of our College uses it enough that it must be).

In a *New Haven Advocate* article previewing the show, Gillis said of his appeal and audience: "Frat dudes like it, rap guys like it, rock guys like it." This was true of the Trinity presence in the audience and on the stage. I was with my Pike brothers, and noticed Hall brothers, Psi U brothers, members of The Fred, and *Tripod* online staff among many others. It was far more varied a group than you may see at any Trinity function, save for maybe orientation and graduation.

I would like to say that I felt out of place amongst the scenesters who certainly did not fit any typical Trinity mold with their hipster clothes and eyewear (one girl was, it seemed, intentionally splattered with neon colored paint) who were continuously chain smoking and scratching their noses. The crowd was so varied and welcoming, however, that it wasn't difficult to let go and simply enjoy the nuts musical stylings of Girl Talk.

After a strong recommendation from *Tripod* senior editor Sara Yoo '08, Toad's did not disappoint, and wandering around New Haven made me wish that Hartford was more like that city. Scariest moment of the evening may go to the deserving young man who was tazied by the New Haven Police Department three times after beating up on a homeless man (who many in the crowd gathered outside Toad's recognized as "Joe"). A writer with less of a hatred (or maybe a recognized penchant) for cliché and bad puns may have made the joke here that the show was simply "electrifying."

## This Weekend's Senior Recitals Showcase Four Years of Effort

continued from page 1

Awakening).

On Friday night, Dancho will take the stage with several other student performers who will variously sing and play his compositions. A few of these are from the Fall '07 Composers' Concert - Seven Selections from *Debut et Fin de la Neige* by Yves Bonnefoy, for soprano Sharpe and Professor Douglas Johnson on piano - and two pieces from the Spring '08 Chamber Ensembles Recital: "When It Rains in Connecticut" and "Nothing to Say," performed by Professor Johnson, Justin Hallquist '11 and Dancho. His recital will start with four selections from a musical theater production titled *I'm a Panic Bomb, Baby!*. Several of his co-stars from the spring

musical *Little Shop of Horrors* are performing in this section: sophomores Ben Feldman, Kat Lawlor, Caroline Newhall, and Brittany Price, as well as Brad DeBiase '11, and fellow senior Accidental, Matt Sahlin. Another segment of his recital will be a small four-part choral section (sopranos Sharpe, Angelica Castaneda '08, and Christine Gilbert '11, altos Leanne Kinter '08, Brooke Powell '10, and Claire Talcott '10, tenors Sean Delaney '11, Pat Greene '07, and Michael Magdelinskas-Vasquez '11, and basses Dan Klin IDP '08 and Jeremy Zimmerman '10),

all of whom will sing selections from "Adonais" by Percy Bysshe Shelley and "Sleep, Sleep, Beauty Bright" by

Davidzon will be performing 16 songs in six languages [...] I was able to attend one of her dress rehearsals so I can safely say she can definitely fill an auditorium with her voice.

showcase Natalie Davidzon, an aspiring opera singer, whose recital repertoire also acts as a portfolio for her post-grad conservatory auditions. Davidzon will be performing 16 songs in six languages: English, Italian (her second

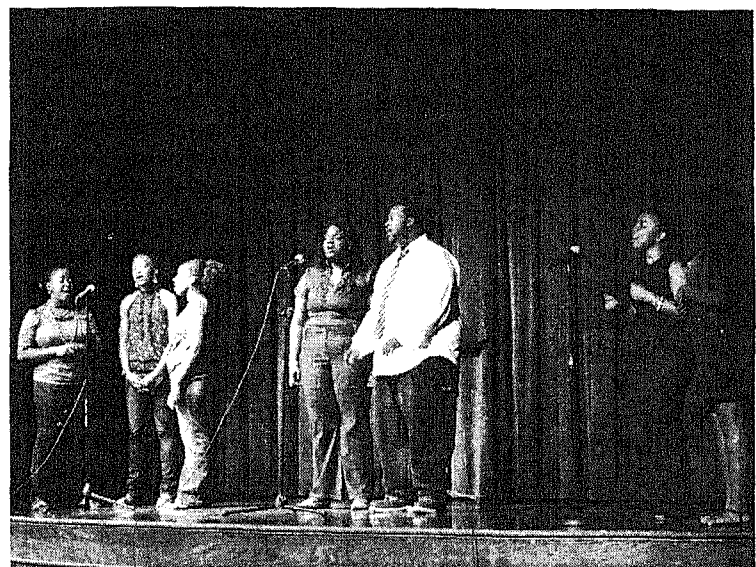
major), French, German, Russian (her native language), and Latin. I was able to attend one of her dress rehearsals, so I can safely say that she can fill an auditorium with her voice. Davidzon will also be accompanied by Christine Melson, and flautist Hallie Blejewski '11 will be playing on two pieces, "Süsse Stille, Sanfte Quelle" by George Frideric Handel and "Ave Maria" by Franz Schubert. Davidzon will also perform her solo from the Fall 2007 Concert Choir performance, "Pie Jesu" from Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem*. Another popular piece she'll be singing is "Musetta's Waltz" from Giacomo Puccini's famous opera *La Bohème*. (If you've ever seen *Rent*, you know the tune.) She performed this during her rehearsal while I sat

in the back of Goodwin Theater, and the high notes that she hit at the end of the aria were loud and clear. Davidzon is a talented performer and her recital will be a treat for audiences.

Overall, all of these recitals are worth attending, if not to see the musical achievements of these young performers, then at least to support their efforts in gaining a larger following in their future musical careers. All recitals are at 7:30 p.m., from Thursday, May 1 to Saturday, May 3. You won't want to miss them.

*Editor's Note:* After the publication deadline, the *Tripod* learned that Lila Claghorn had canceled her recital due to vocal cord hemorrhage.

## Trinity College Gospel Choir Revels in Emotion



Jordyn Sims

The Gospel Choir performed on Friday, April 25 in the Washington Room.

## Coming Movies Thrive on Star Power

continued from page 17

### The Dark Knight

Hands down the most anticipated movie of the summer, perhaps the year. Even before the untimely death of Heath Ledger (see *Tripod* article *Heath Ledger: Untimely Death of a Great Talent*) this movie was widely hyped. Ledger's performance as the Joker has also been anticipated, a role made famous on film by Jack Nicholson, who had large shoes that Ledger undoubtedly filled. Christian Bale returns as Batman in this sequel to 2005's *Batman Begins*. Following the huge critical and commercial success of the first movie as well as Ledger's unexpected death, it is hard to foresee this movie doing poorly critically or commercially. The all-star cast, American superhero icon, and (sadly) no Katie Holmes all add up to a recipe for huge success.

Friday, July 18 (not soon enough).

### Mamma Mia

Days in the *Tripod* office lately have been peppered with a burnt CD copy of *ABBA Gold*, which seems to be a sign that I should include this movie in my list. A film adaptation of the hit Broadway musical, it stars many A-list stars, particularly Colin Firth, Pierce Brosnan, and living icon Meryl Streep.

Friday, July 18.

### Step Brothers

Will Ferrell and John C. Reilly team up for the first time since 2006's *Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby*. I don't know what this movie is about, and I don't really care to find out until I see it. Ferrell and Reilly's antics and hilarity in *Talladega Nights* were so good that simply the two of them together is enough to convince me to see it.

Friday, July 25.

### Pineapple Express

Anyone who watched *Superbad* on DVD with commentary on will have heard about this movie thousands of times. Described as a "weed action movie," *Pineapple Express* is the follow-up screenplay to *Superbad* for

Seth Rogen and Evan Goldberg. It also stars Rogen and his *Freaks and Geeks* co-star James Franco. (Watch *Freaks and Geeks*.)

Friday, August 8.

### The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2

Rory Gilmore and Serena van der Woodsen? Still definitely won't see it.

Friday, August 8.

With a strong mix of action, comedy, drama, and a good amount of fun, summer 2008's movie selection has something for everyone. My pick for the likely best would have to be *The Dark Knight*, but I really wish that another *Pirates of the Caribbean* movie was coming out this summer. Nothing says summer like pirates.



www.collider.com

Seth Rogen (left) and James Franco star in the highly anticipated *Pineapple Express*.

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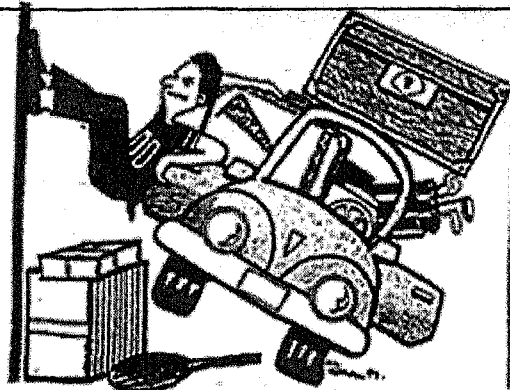
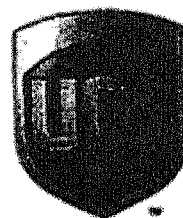
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# Bayer Dominates as Bants Enjoy Another Undefeated Week

continued from page 1

Sophomore starter Jeremiah Bayer, this week's NESCAC Pitcher of the Week, held the Warriors to four hits and one run through seven strong innings to pick up the win in the eventual 17-2 Trinity victory.

Fellow sophomore first baseman Kent Graham, this week's NESCAC Co-Player of the Week, led the offensive charge with a 4-5 night with three runs scored and one batted in.

Bayer shone again in the first game of this past Saturday's double-header at Amherst College, going 5.2 innings in relief of ace left-handed senior starter Tim Kiely, who lasted 5.1.

Kiely allowed an uncharacteristic four runs (three earned) and left with the lead.

Bayer allowed the tying run to score, unearned, in the seventh inning, but limited the damage and sent the game to extra innings.

Both sides squandered opportunities until the top of the 11th, when senior shortstop Thomas DiBenedetto doubled home Graham with the winning run. The Bantams added an insurance run to bring the final score to 7-5.

Game two against the Lord Jeffs was almost as close, although Trinity scored four runs in the first. Again, Graham led the team with three hits in four at-bats. He scored two runs and drove in one.

The pitchers' duel finally came in game one of this past Sunday's double-header against the Brandeis University Judges, when both sides were held to just one hit until sophomore right fielder opened the fifth inning with a home run, the only score

of the game.

Senior righthander Chandler Barnard went the distance for Trinity, striking out eight over seven innings.

Graham and DiBenedetto dominated offensively in game two against Brandeis, going 3-4 and 2-3, respectively. DiBenedetto drove in four runs and Trinity took the game by a score of 7-4.

The Bantams will close the regular season with a Saturday doubleheader on May 3 in Middletown, Conn. against the Wesleyan University Cardinals.

The NESCAC Championship Tournament, in which the Bantams have clinched the number one seed in the East Division, will begin on Friday, May 9.

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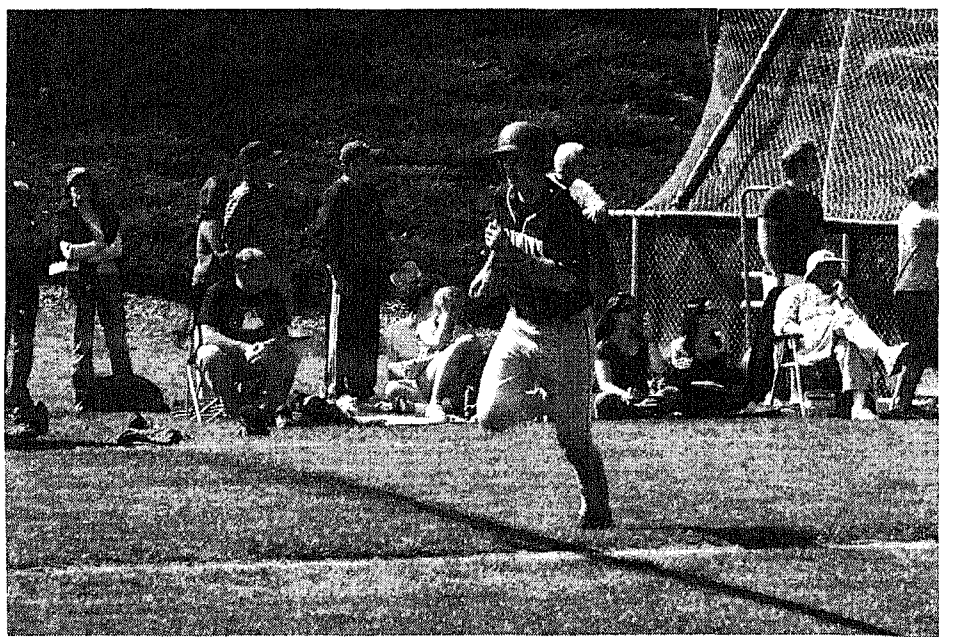
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Courtesy of Matthew Sullivan

First baseman Kent Graham '10 sprints home to score the winning run in game one against Amherst.

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# Kukstis Looks at the Tripod's Graduating Seniors With Love

JAMES KUKSTIS  
NEWS EDITOR

It's hard to believe that this issue is the last that this year's seniors will work on, and it sure doesn't feel that way in the office. What is even scarier and harder to believe is that come next semester the staff won't have Joe and Katy to lean on. In my three semesters on staff, the members of the class of 2008 have been the most invaluable resources and biggest sources of support. In half the time that they have been at Trinity, a member of their class has been Editor-in-Chief: Ashley Bell in the Spring of 2006, Katy Nolin in the Spring of 2007, Bill Cosgrove in the Fall of 2007, and Joe Tarzi this semester. Having three former and one current Editor-in-Chiefs on campus from one class is extremely rare, and I can speak for the staff when I say that we are incredibly lucky to have this resource.

My first semester on staff, Ashley was abroad, yet she still managed to scare the hell out of me. Over time, though, we warmed to each other, and she has been a great opinion both inside and outside of the office. I was not fortunate enough to be here for her and David Pietrocola's semester in charge, and from what I hear from the staff, my eardrums should count

themselves lucky.

That same semester, Katy was in charge. She has since become one of my best friends. Besides my personal feelings, she has rejuvenated the Tripod Online and provided her input throughout the paper, most of the time proving us wrong and setting us on the journalistically ethical path. Her greatest strength, though, has been as the butt of our old man jokes. I will most miss her trademark blazer.

Bill was in charge last semester, when I first became a

News Editor. With such strength in that section, I especially appreciated his presence and knowledge around the office. A Boston boy is always good company.

Joe, Joe, Joe, Joe. The loss of Mr. Tarzi (or "Ghows," pronounced "Hoes," as he is known in the office) is perhaps the scariest. No one knows as much about the inner workings of this paper than Joe, from the intricate machinations of the Quark software to how to offend every possible sociological group on the planet in one Opinions arti-

cle to how to get us more money for computers. Despite how well (or not) we may get along during long nights in Jackson basement, respect for Joe is undeniable. I will again speak for the staff when I say that I hope Joe will write it all down before he leaves. And of course, who but Joe could come up with such "That's what she said!" gems as "I didn't like it when it was in my body!" and "So yeah, I'm gonna need the dimensions of your gaping hole." Oh Joe.

Like Bill, David is a Tripod News God. Or so he likes to

think. Jenny will always be a future girl at heart. All that can be said about Jay, according to the staff, is "Tap that." Ed Walters will remain a god amongst men to the Tripod women (particularly Apstein.) Sara "white space" Yoo is a master of design, though I'm scared she's going to take our red book. Mike Robinson's tongues, lips, and teeth churn the fundamental aperture to hitherto unsuspected rapture. The ghost of Nora Harrington will continue to haunt my dreams and catch my mistakes. And Julia Pitassy

## TRIP-ODDS



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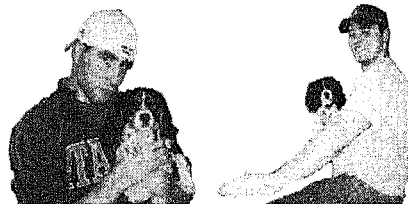
1st  
(29-12)



**HANNAH CHARRY**

4th  
(18-23)

## TRIP-ODDS CHAMPION



**JAY ACUNZO & MIKE ROBINSON**

2nd  
(21-20)/(21-20)



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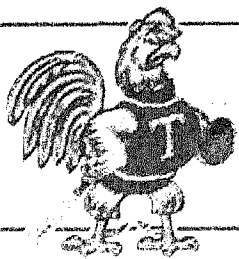
3rd  
(20-21)



## The Trinity Tripod

Fall 2004 to Spring 2008





# Tripod Seniors

Inside Seniors:

Goodbye,  
Class of 2008,  
page 23

The Trinity Tripod • May 1, 2008



Congrats to our beloved *Tripod* Seniors! We will LOVE you forever and ever!

